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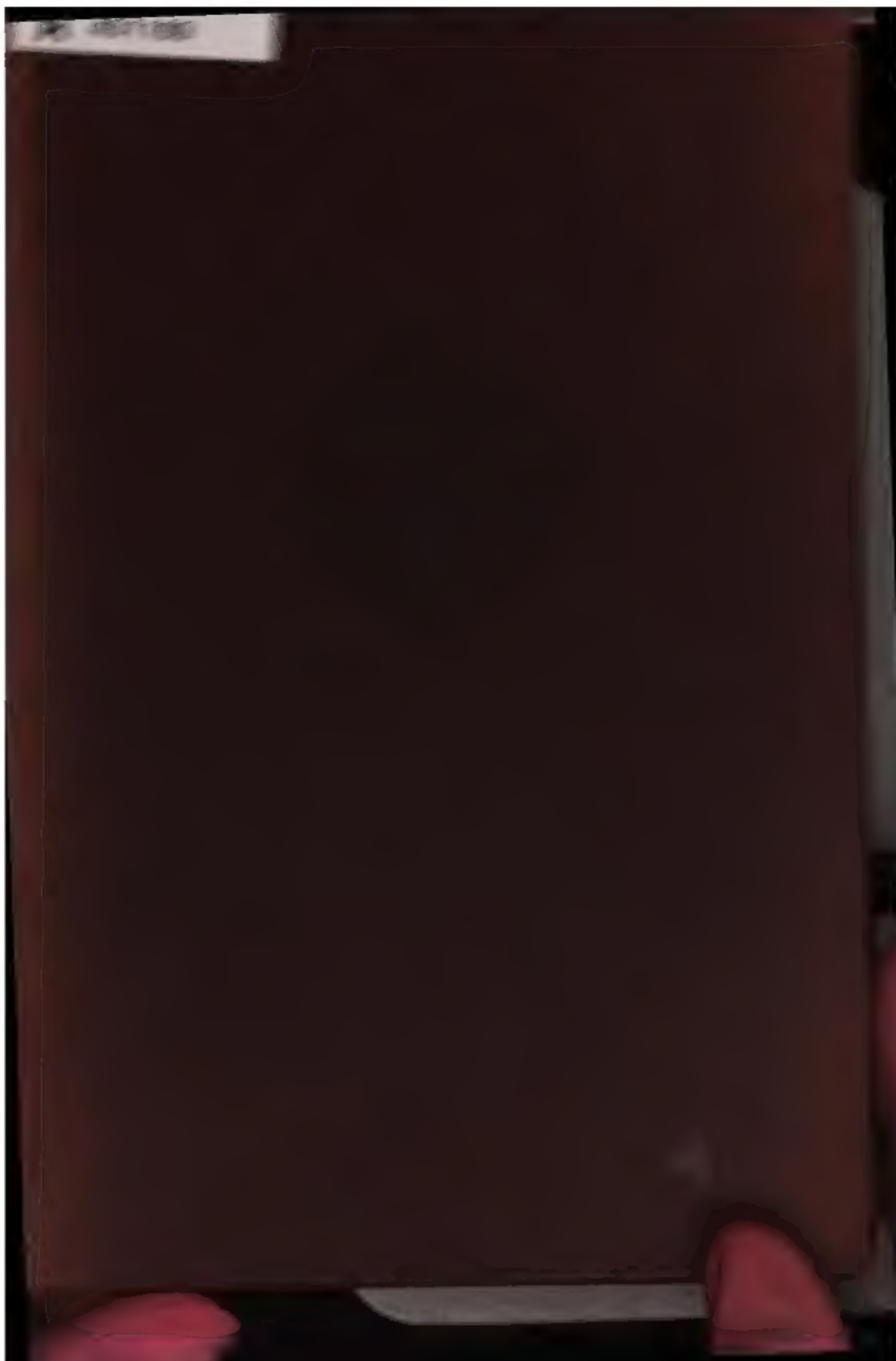
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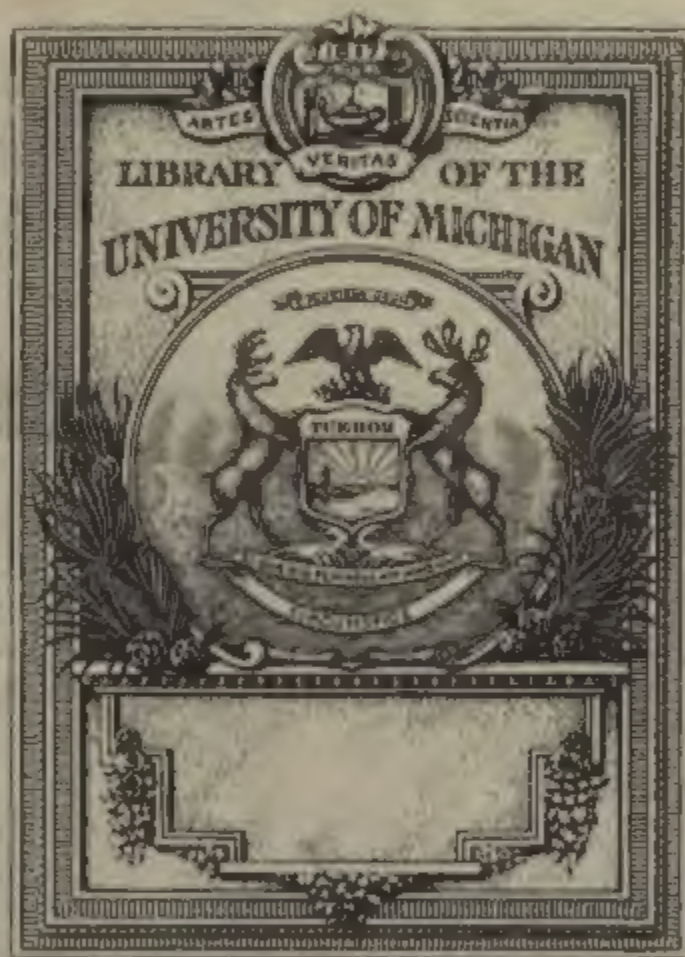
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AMERICAN HISTORY

UNIFICATION—EXPANSION

SOURCE EXTRACTS

BY


HOWARD W. CALDWELL, A.M.

PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN HISTORY IN THE
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
J. H. MILLER, PUBLISHER
1900

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PREFACE

 HIS little volume of sources is sent forth under the belief that it may be used in high schools and lower college classes as a convenient basis for more intensive work than has been done in the grades. The first part of the volume presents a general outline of the more salient features of our country's history. The second part traces its territorial development. In use the two parts may be handled separately, or taken together in chronological order. The most skillful teacher will doubtless develop a method of his own, and will bring all the matter into one whole that bears upon the particular topic under consideration. It is thought that one year's time should be given to the study, as much work in narrative texts will be necessary in order to make connections, and to give the student an opportunity to test and correct his conclusions by comparing them with the more mature work of our great historians. The importance of the topics treated cannot be questioned. The growth of the nation, the formation of the constitution, its interpretation, and

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PREFACE

the slavery question have formed the salient elements in our national life. It is believed that it is better to emphasize a few points, and to investigate them thoroughly, than to scatter the student's energies over all the issues that have divided or agitated the American people. The volume is sent forth to the teachers of the country in the hope that they may find in it an aid to better work, an incentive to greater interest, and a means to secure better results.

H. W. CALDWELL.

A SURVEY
OF
AMERICAN HISTORY

SOURCE EXTRACTS

BY
HOWARD W. CALDWELL, A.M.

PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN HISTORY IN THE
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

VOLUME I

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA
J. H. MILLER, PUBLISHER
1900

INTRODUCTION

METHODS of teaching history are in process of transformation. With the change in method comes the demand for new books; so if anyone asks the reason for this little collection of sources on American history, the answer is believed to be found in this change. The compiler is pleased to know that these studies have been received with favor by many progressive teachers. He feels that the lack of proper and available material is one reason that the "laboratory method" has not found more ready acceptance in the past by a larger number of teachers. In the belief that this collection will in part supply the demand, it is now sent forth to the school-world in this more permanent form.

In many Normal schools and in some high schools brief reviews are demanded and given. In such cases it seems to the writer to be a waste of time to hurry through some text book, repeating the work that has been done in the grades, in perchance even a less efficient way. It is hoped and believed that the following ten "studies" help to solve the problem of such reviews. A few suggestions are made in regard to the method of handling this material. A note-book should be in the hand of every pupil. It is desirable to have this made up of loose sheets of paper, perforated, so that they may be bound together, or removed and changed in place at the will of the pupil. A cover should be made or purchased in which to keep and preserve these sheets.

The next and most important matter is to bring the students into contact with the original material as often and as completely as possible. For this purpose, of course the "sources" must be accessible, and as far as possible in the hands of every pupil. It should be noted here again that it is not expected that the larger part even of the facts of history can be obtained from these sources, so a good narrative text must be at hand, and in constant use. The "sources" are to be used for the purpose of illustrating how the narrative history was formed; but more especially for the mental training which may be obtained from their use. The same document or illustrative extract should be in the hands of every member of the class that each may have the benefit of the criticism of all.

With the material then in the hands of the class, the first question will be to determine as far as possible its value. To do this necessitates that we find out whether the document is what it purports to be; then to determine whether we have a correct copy of it. Next we must find out who wrote it, and under what circumstances. Finally, the character of the author will come under discussion. Did he have the opportunity to know? Was he able, honest, educated? Was he writing for partisan ends, or did he attempt to tell the exact truth? These are a few of the tests we must apply to our material, if we are to know its real value. Perhaps the most important question of all will be, did the writer know of his own personal knowledge, or did he gain his information from hearsay? After we have determined the

value of our "source," we next proceed to analyze it, and to find out just what the writer meant. Here we must notice the use and meaning of words at the time the document was written, and note any changes at the present time, so that we may get just the idea intended to be conveyed. A series of questions will often greatly help in this analysis. The ones given in the text are only intended to be suggestive, and so may be supplemented by others, or limited by omissions.

The next step will be to classify and arrange our knowledge. In the writer's opinion this is the hardest, as well as the most important, part of the work. A logical arrangement must be insisted on. A careful outline must be prepared, containing a page reference to every point in the notes. It is only by this careful preparation that accuracy in thinking or in writing can ever be secured. When this work is completed, then the last step in the plan can be taken with great ease and facility, for then the whole mind and strength can be concentrated on the composition. The memory under such circumstances is not burdened with carrying all the details. They are indicated in the outline and in the notes to which it refers. It goes without saying that every piece of student work when completed should be tested by comparing it with the best narrative texts, or with the teacher's knowledge.

One final idea should be suggested. Each of these studies covers many years of time. The evolution of the topic has been kept in mind in making the extracts. In working up the material then into papers and

reports, the teacher should see that the pupil has noted and understood the changes and the reasons therefor. For example, if the topic be the "Economic History" of the United States, great pains should be taken to call the attention to the changes in belief in regard to the tariff, or internal improvements. Let every effort be bent to discovering the causes of these changes. If Webster cease to be a free trader, the reason for the change should be found if possible. If the South oppose internal improvements, let the cause be unearthed.

These studies, then, are committed to my fellow teachers in the hope that they may aid them a little in solving the difficult problem of how to get our children to understand their own history, and to get such an understanding in such a way as to make them mentally and morally stronger, that they may be better prepared to meet the exceedingly difficult questions which will confront the coming generation. The writer has no extravagant ideas or expectations in regard to the transforming power of these studies. He simply hopes and believes that they will be found to be an aid.

H. W. C.

THE FOUNDING OF THE COLONIES

Virginia, 1607; New York, 1614, by Dutch; New Jersey, 1617, by Dutch; Plymouth, 1620, Massachusetts Bay, 1629; New Hampshire, 1623, Connecticut, 1634; New Haven, 1637, Maryland, 1634; Rhode Island, 1636; Delaware, 1638, by Swedes; North Carolina, 1663, South Carolina, 1663; Pennsylvania 1681, Georgia, 1733.

Dates for the first permanent settlements

AMERICAN HISTORY STUDIES

IN the following studies it is intended to illustrate ten phases of American history by calling in contemporaries to speak for themselves. Of course these extracts are expected to do little else than whet the appetite for more. It is hoped that the spirit of original research may be intensified in this way to such an extent that the reader may wish to go to the more extended compilations of sources. Professor Hart's new work, "American History as Told by Contemporaries," in four volumes, will meet the wants of many. Many extracts may be found in this book which could not have been laid before its readers had not his compilation been available. Niles' "Documents Illustrative of the American Revolution" is also a valuable and convenient collection of sources bearing on the American Revolution. Professor Woodburn's revision of Johnston's "American Orations" has increased the usefulness of that valuable work. It now consists of four volumes of the best speeches on all political topics made by American statesmen. The reader of these articles will thus recognize that they contain only an insignificant fraction of the available material, but it is hoped that these papers may throw light on a few of the many great questions in the development of the life and thought of the American people. May we not at least hope that those who cannot have access to the more elaborate works, or those whose time is too

limited to use them, may find something to aid them in these briefer extracts?

To get the greatest value from this work the writer believes that definite, systematic work is necessary. The questions are intended to direct the thought to the most important points in the extracts, and to bring out the hidden meanings. The new reader may perhaps understand the method from a few explanatory sentences. In the first place, a written answer should be prepared for every question, accompanied by the page reference to the proof for the answer. Then an outline should be prepared arranging in proper and logical order the knowledge which has been accumulated in answering the questions. This second step is followed by the third, which consists in writing a paper following the "outline" and based on the answers to the questions for the "material" or matter which it contains. In brief, we first gather our "material," then make an "outline," and finally write our "narrative history." It is believed that those who will conscientiously follow this plan will by the end of the year have gained much in power, in knowledge of method, and in general culture and information.

More or less explanatory matter will be introduced into the extracts, but in all cases it will be inclosed in brackets []. The editor will, however, in general leave the contemporary writers to tell their own story.

CHAPTER I

THE FOUNDING OF THE COLONIES

THE planting of the colonies may be said in general to extend from 1600 to 1700.

By the latter date they were firmly established and the lines of their movement well determined. The social, religious, political, educational, and industrial life must all be considered in our study. Also the purposes of colonization and the character of the emigrants, as well as the Indians, are factors in our study. Selections, therefore, have been made to illustrate each of these problems.

The source material for this earlier period is very abundant, and much of it is now being made available in a comparatively cheap form. In this first number I have cut out the modifying clauses to a great extent, but it is believed that the substance of the articles has been in all cases left unimpaired.

1. *Reasons for colonization.*

Then shall her Majesties dominions be enlarged, her highnesse ancient titles justly continue, all odious idlenesse from this our Realm utterly banished, divers decayed towns repaired, and many poor and needy persons relieved, and estates of such as now live in want shall be embetred, the ignorant and barbarous idolaters taught to know Christ, the innocent defended from their bloodie tyrannicall neighbors, the diabollicall custome of sacrificing humane creatures abolished . . . 1582. *Sir Geo. Peckham in Hakluyt; Voyages, etc.*

... aiming at the glory of God, the propagation of the gospel of Christ, the conversion of the Indians, and the enlargement of the King's Majesty's dominions in America. . . .
—*Hart, I, p. 190.*

2. The emigrants: Class, laws concerning.

1582.—Sir Geo. Peckham proposed to get rid of

a great number of men which do now live idely at home, and are burthnous, chargeable, and to the common annoy of the whole state.—*Hakluyt.*

1637.—No persons being Subsidy Men [liable for taxes] or of the value of Subsidy Men shall emigrant.—*Proclamation, Chas. I.*

You are to take . . . such a course . . . that vagrants and others who remain here noxious and unprofitable, may be soe transplanted to the generall advantage of the publique as well as the particuler commoditie of our Forraigne Plantacons. —1660 Instructions for the Councill for Forraigne Plantacons. *From Documents relating to New York History*

And probably many vagrants agreed with Charles II., for, in 1679, two bright Dutch travelers tell us of a "Godless Emigrant Ship" bound for New York.

In fine it was a Babel. I have never in my life heard of such a disorderly ship. It was confusion without end. I have never been in a ship where there was so much vermin, which was communicated to us . . . There were some bunks and clothes as full as if they had been sown. But * must forbear.—*Long Island Hist. Society, Memoirs*

On the other side, hear Rev. Francis Higginson, 1629:

The passage was through God's blessing . . . short and speedy—6 weeks and 3 days, healthful to our passengers, being freed from the great contagion of the scurvie and other maledictions, which in other passages . . . had taken away the lives of many; and withal, a pious and Christian-like passage; for I suppose passengers will seldom find a company of more religious, honest and kynd seamen than we had. We constantly served God morning and evening by reading and expounding a chapter, singing, and prayer. And the Sabbath was solemnly kept by adding . . .

preaching twice and catechising And in our great need we kept 2 solemn fasts . . . Let all that love and use fasting and prayer take notice that it is as preavailable by sea as by land, whensoever it is faithfully performed - *Quoted in Hart, I, p. 194, from Thomas Hutchinson's Collections.*

3. The Indians.

Peckham, 1582, says:

All Savages . . . as soon as they shall begin but a little to taste of civility will take marvellous delight in any garment, be it never so simple . . . and will take incredible pains for such a trifle. . . . Now to the end it may appear that this voyage is not undertaken altogether for the peculiar commodity of ourselves . . . it shall fall out in proof that . . . if in respect of all the commodities they can yeelde us . . . that they should but receive this only benefit of Christianity, they were more than fully recompenced. . . . Wee got for trifles neer 1100 Bever skinnes, 100 Martins, and neer as many Ottus — *Captain J. Smith in "A Description of New England."*

Governor Winslow, 1621, says they were "very trusty, quick of apprehension, ripe witted, just."

Penn, in 1683, testifies that

he will deserve the name of wise who outwits them in any treaty about a thing they understand . . . Do not abuse them, but let them have justice and you win them — *Quoted from Janney's Life of Penn.*

4. Mechanism of colonization.

The colonization companies in England were certainly rare enthusiasts. It is amusing to notice in the proceedings of the Council for New England, 1622, the following item:

It is agreed that y^e Councell meet the Morrow . . . at Sr Ferd: Gorges Lodgings for conferring about y^e forme of a patent betweene 7 and 8 o'clock in ye morning

The royal generosity of the kings in giving away continents is well illustrated by this account of how the above company disposed of New England, 1623:

There were presented to the Kings most excellent Ma^{tie} a Plot of . . . Coasts and lands of New England divided

into twenty parts each part conteyning two shares, And twenty lotts conteyning the said double shares made up in little bales of waxe, And the names of twenty Pattentees by whom these lotts were to be drawne.—*From Proceedings American Antiquarian Society.*

Having given the lands to the companies, these must settle them. The proposal of the proprietors of Carolina in 1663 illustrates the method, and the expectations:

‘Wee will grante to every present Undertaker for his owne head, 100 acres of land, to him and his heires forever, to be held in free and common Socceage, & for every man Servt yt he shall bringe or send thithr yt is fitt to bare Armes, armed wth a good fierlocke Musket, performed boare, 12 bullets to ye pound, and wth 20 lb of powder & 20 lb of Bullets, 50 acres of land — *Hart, I, 297.*

The charters show the crude geographical ideas and the dangers inherent in promiscuous grants. In the instruction given by Charles II., in 1660, to the first Council for Foreign Plantations we find the following unconscious estimate of this chaos:

You shall informe yourselves by the best wayes and meanes you can of the state and conlcon of all Forraigne Plantations, and by what comissions or authorities they are and have bene governed and disposed of; and are to procure . . . copies of all such comissions and graunts . . . that you may be the better able to understand judge and administer — *Documents, New York.*

In 1621 the Virginia Company, of London, tells us how they sent over fifty young women to be given in marriage for “one hundred and fiftie pounds of the best leafe tobacco for each of them;” for, they add, “we have used extraordinary care and diligence in the choice of them, and have received none of whom we have not had good testimony of their honest life and cariage.”

In 1660 Charles II., in his instructions for the first Council for Foreign Plantations, has the following: ~

You are to apply your selves to all prudential meanes for the rendering those dominions usefull to England and England helpfull to them, and for the bringing the severall Colonies and Plantacons, within themselves, into a more certaine civill and uniforme of goverment and for the better ordering and distributeing of publique justice among them — *Documents, New York*

5. Political life.

James, by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c., whereas Sir Thomas Gates . . . (and others) consisting of certain Knights, Gentlemen, Merchants, and other adventurers, have been humble suitors unto us, that We would vouchsafe unto them our License, to make Habitation . . . in that part of *America* commonly called VIRGINIA, . . . situate . . . between four and thirty Degrees of Northerly Latitude . . . and five and forty Degrees of the same Latitude, . . . We, greatly commending, . . . their Desires . . . which may . . . hereafter tend to the Glory of his Divine Majesty, . . . and in time bring the Infidels and Savages . . . to human civility, and to a settled and quiet government: Do, &c., agree. . . — *Poore, II, 1888. Charter, 1606.*

We . . . do . . . Give, Grant and Confirm to our trusty and well-beloved subjects, Robert, Earl of Salisbury, . . . Robert, Lord Viscount Lisle, . . . Sir Hamphrey Weld, Lord Mayor of London, . . . George Piercy, Esq., Sir Edward Cecil, Knight, . . . Dr. Meadows, . . . Captain Pagnam . . . Geo. Bolls, Esq., Sheriff of London, Wm Crashaw, Clerk, Batchelor of Divinity, . . . Thomas Harris, Gentleman, . . . Geo. Walker, Sadler, John Swinkow, stationer, Wm. Brown, shoemaker, . . . Frances Binley, minister, Richard Shepherd, preacher, William Shirley, haberdasher, Wm. Gibbs, merchant, Thomas Gypes, cloth-maker, John Dike, fishmonger, . . . Christopher Vertue, vintner, . . . the Company of Goldsmiths, the Company of Brewers . . . Robert Chening, yeoman, . . . that they shall be one Body or Commonalty perpetual "having that part of *America* called Virginia . . ." [description follows, but it is too long to quote].—*Charter, 1609. Poore, Charters.*

1610. Virginia.—Sir Thomas Gates draws the character of the first settlers. There was

a great shipwrack in the continent of Va. by the tempest of dissention: every man overvaluing his own worth, would be a Commander: every man underprising an others value, denied to be commanded. . . . The next foontaine of woes was secure negligence, and improvidence, when every man sharked for his present bootie, but was altogether carlesse of succeeding penurie. . . . Unto idlenesse you may joyne treasons, wrought by those unhallowed creatures that forsooke the Colony. . . . Unto Treasons, you may joyne covetousnesse in the Mariners, who . . . partly imbezzled the provisions, partly prevented our trade with the *Indians*, making the matches in the night, and forestalling our market in the day

Cast up this reckoning together. want of government, store of idlenesse, their expectations frustrated by the traitors, their market spoyled by the Mariners, our nets broken, the deere chased, our boats lost, our hogs killed, our trade with the *Indians* forbidden, some of our men fled, some marthered, and most . . . weakened, and indanngered, famyne and sicknesse by all these meanes increased -*Hart, I, 206-208.*

1619. Virginia.—We have an official "Reporte of the . . . General Assembly convened at James City, in Virginia, July 30, 1619, consisting of the Governor, the Counsell of Estates, and two Burgesses elected out of eache Incorporation and Plantation, and being dissolved the 4th of August."

The most convenient place we could finde to sitt in was the Quir of the Church Where Sir George Yeardley, the Governor, being sitt down in his accustomed place, those of the Counsell of Estate sate nexte him on both handes, except onely the Secretary then appointed Speaker, who sate right before him, John Twine, Clerke of the General assembly, being placed next the Speaker, and Thomas Pierse, the Sergeant, standing at the barre, to be ready for any Service the Assembly should command him. But forasmuche as men's affaires doe little prosper where God's service is neglected . . . a prayer was said. . . . Prayer being ended, to the intente that as we had begun at God Almighty, so we might proceed with awful and due respecte towards the Lieutenant, our most gracious and dread Sovereigne. . . . [The Assembly proceeded immediately to pass laws "Against Idleness, Gaming, durunkenes & excesse in apparell" within three days]—*Colonial Records of Virginia.*

1620. Massachusetts.—Rev. John Robinson wrote his advice after the Pilgrim colonists, whom he could not accompany.

Whereas you are to become a Body Politick . . . and are not furnished with Persons of special Eminency . . . to be chosen by you into Office of Government: Let your Wisdome and Godliness appear not onely in choosing such Persons as do intirely love . . . the common Good, but also in vielding unto them all due Honour and Obedience in their lawfull Administration, not beholding in them the Ordinariness of their Persons, but God's Ordinance for your Good; . . . and this Duty you may the more willingly, and ought the more conscionably to perform, because you are . . . to have them for your ordinary Governours which you yourselves shall make choice of for that Work.—*Harvard Collections.*

1620 —Mayflower Compact.

That as, before we came to harbor, observing some not well affected to unity and concord . . . it was thought good . . . to make an association and agreement . . . to the said government and governors as we should by lawes and statutes make and choose. . . . We . . . the loyall subjects of our Lord King James . . . have . . . of God, and advancements of . . . of our king & countrie, a voyage . . . Northern parts of Virginia . . . in the presence of God, and . . . ourselves together into a . . . planning and preservation . . . and by vertue hereof to . . . at & equal lawes . . . for the better . . . for the generall . . . the submission . . . we have hereunder . . . November . . .

1620.

He tells us in his

of the them drivers of
for that a warrant
the pas-
and delivered their

opinions, that it was not safe to pay moneys after that sort, for fear of bringing themselves and posterity into bondage. . . . After much debate, they acknowledged their fault. . . . The ground of their error was, for that they took this government to be no other but as of a mayor and aldermen, who have not power to make laws or raise taxations without the people, but understanding that this government was rather in the nature of a parliament, and that no assistant could be chosen but by the freemen . . . and therefore at every general court . . . they had free liberty . . . to declare their grievances . . . they were fully satisfied; and so their submission was accepted, and their offence pardoned." . . .

1634.—The general court came to a deadlock.

So when they could proceed no farther, the whole court agreed to keep a day of humiliation to seek the Lord, which accordingly was done, in all the congregations [And then when they met again] although all were not satisfied . . . yet no man moved aught about it; . . . [and thus Puritan theology ruled and softened Puritan politics].—*Winthrop's Journal*.

1635.

At this court, one of the deputies was questioned for . . . affirming that the power of the governor was but ministerial, etc. He had also much opposed the magistrates, and slighted them, and used many weak arguments against the negative voice, as himself acknowledged upon record. He was adjudged by all the court to be disabled for three years from bearing any public office.—*Winthrop, History*.

1637.—For an interesting case of political division and party manipulation, see Hart, I, pp. 378-9.

1639.—Governor Winthrop gives us this very interesting view of theocratic government:

When the people have chosen men to be their rulers, and to make their laws, and bound themselves by oath to submit thereto, now to combine together . . . in a public petition to have any order repealed, which is not repugnant to the law of God, savors of resisting an ordinance of God . . . amounts to a plain reproof of those whom God hath set over them, and putting dishonor upon them, against the tenor of the fifth commandment.—*Winthrop, History*.

1646.—The Presbyterians demanded a share in the government.

We therefore desire that civill liberty and freedom be forthwith granted to all truly English, equall to the rest of their countrymen . . . and as all freeborne enjoy in our native country. . . . Further, that none of the English nation, who at this time are too forward to be gone, and very backward to come hither, be banished, unless they break the known lawes of England in so high a measure as to deserve so high a punishment . . . and we likewise desire that no greater punishments be inflicted upon offenders than are allowed and met by the laws of our native country. —*Hutchinson*.

1653.—In this year Massachusetts furnished the first American example of the nullification of a federal act—i. e., of the New England Confederation.

It can be noe lesse then a contradiction to affirme the Supream power; which wee take to bee the Generall Courts of every Jurisdiction Can bee commanded by others an absurditie in pollicye; That an Intire gov'r'ment and Jurisdiction should prostitute itselfe to the comaund of Strangers; a Scandall in Religion that a generall court of Christians should bee oblidge to acte and engage upon the faith of six Delligates against theire consience all which must be admitted.—*Plymouth Records*.

1639. Connecticut.—“Fundamental Orders” made by “a Gen'all Cort at Harteford.”

This constitution consists of eleven articles, but the lack of space necessitates very brief quotations.

. . . we . . . the Inhabitants and Residents of Windsor, Harteford and Wethersfield . . . doe . . . conjoyne our selves to be as one Publike State or Commonwealth . . . to mayntayne . . . the liberty and purity of the gospell . . . as also in our Civill Affaires to be guided and governed according to such Lawes, Rules, Orders and decrees as shall be made . . . as followeth:

(1.) It is ordered . . . that there shall be yerely two generall Assemblies; . . . the first shall be called the Courte of Elections [to choose officers]. . . .

(5.) Also the other General Courte in September shall be for makeing of lawes. . . .

(10.) It is Ordered, that every Generall Court shall consist of the Governor and 4 other Magistrates at least, with the major p'te of the deputies of the severall Townes legally chosen. — *Poor, Charters and Constitutions; also Hart, l.*

New York had a reform party and movement in 1650, and their leaders have left us their ideas of reform and good government. Colonization

was not begun properly; for it was merely accidental, and was not intended . . . Trade . . . is more suited for slaves than freemen, in consequence of the restrictions upon it and the annoyances which accompany the exercise of the right of inspection . . . [For years, too, not] any thing large or small, worth relating, was done, built or made, which concerned or belonged to the commonalty, the church excepted — *New York Historical Society, Collections*

Care ought to be taken of the public property as well ecclesiastical as civil. . . . There should be a public school, . . . so that first of all in so wild a country, when there are many loose people, the youth be well taught and brought up, not only in reading and writing, but also in the knowledge and fear of the Lord. . . . There ought also to be an alms house, and an orphan asylum, and other similar institutions . . . the country must also be provided with godly, honorable and intelligent rulers who are not very indigent, or indeed, are not very covetous. . . . — *Documents relating to New York Colonial History.*

That none shall be admitted freemen or free Burgesses within our Town . . . but such Planters as are members of some or other of the Congregational Churches nor shall any but such be chosen to Magistracy or to Carry on any part of Civil Judicature, or as deputies or assistants, to have power to Vote In establishing Laws, and making or Repealing them or to any Chief Military Trust or Office. Nor shall any But such Church Members have any Vote in any such elections, Tho' all others admitted to be Planters have Right to their proper Inheritance, and do and shall enjoy all other Civil Liberties and Privileges. . . . — *Records of the Town of Newark, N. J.*

6. Characteristics of colonial life.

Massachusetts.—John Endicott wrote to Charles II. in 1661:

You. Servants are true Men, Fearers of God and of the King, not given to change, zealous of Government and order, orthodox and peaceable in Israel; we are not seditious as to the Interest of Cæsar, nor Schismaticks as to the matters of Religion; We distinguish between Churches and their Impurities, between a living Man, though not without Sickness or Infirmary, or no man; Irregularities either in ourselves or others we desire to be amended [A most excellent description.]—*Hazard, Historical Collections.*

Samuel Sewall, in 1692, enters in his diary, the ominous note that

A Bill is sent in about calling a Fast and Convocation of Ministers that may be led in the right way as to the Witchcrafts. [And the next page we read about] 7 Balls of Fire that mov'd and mingled each with other. . . .—*Diary of Sewall in Mass Hist Society Collections*

In 1631 Winthrop's diary gives us this item:

At this court . . . a servant . . . being conviet . . . of most foul, scandalous invectives against our churches and government, was censured to be whipped, lose his ears, and be banished the plantation, which was presently executed.

Connecticut.—In the true Blue Laws of 1672 we read:

If any Man or Woman be a Witch . . . they shall be put to death.

[And] *forasmuch as the good education of Children is of singular behoof and benefit to any Colony, and whereas many Parents and Masters are too indulgent and negligent,* . . . If any man have a stubborn or rebellious Son . . . sixteen years of age, which will not obey . . . his Father or . . . Mother . . . then may his Father or Mother, being his natural Parents lay hold on him, and bring him to the Magistrates assembled in Court, and notifie . . . that their Son is Stubborn and Rebellious, and will not obey their voice and chastisement, but lives in sundry notorious Crimes, such a Son shall be put to death

No man shall exercise any Cruelty towards any Bruit Creatures which are usually kept for the use of man. . . .—*Laws of Connecticut*

John Josselyn, in 1674, after enumerating a number of punitive laws, sums up New Englanders:

Their great masters, as also some of their Merchants are damnable rich; generally all of their judgment, inexplicably covetous and proud, they receive your gifts but as an homage or tribute due to their transcendancy, which is a fault their Clergie are also guilty of, whose living is upon the bounty of their hearers. . . . The chiefest objects of discipline, Religion, and morality they want, some are of a *Leisure-cool* disposition, of several professions in Religion, all like *Ethiopians* while in the Tent, only full of ludification and injurious dealing, and cruelty the extreamest of all vices.—*Hart, I, 495.*

Virginia.—In 1622 Capt. Nathaniel Butler tells us how he

found the plantations generally seated upon meer salt marshes, full of infectious boggs and muddy creeks and lakes Their houses are generally the worst that ever I saw, the meanest cottages in England being every way equal (if not superior) with the most of the best.

Tobacco only was the business, and for ought that I could hear every man madded upon that little thought or looked for anything else.—*Virginia Historical Society, Collections.*

Governor Berkeley, in his official report of 1671, tells us, too, that of

commodities of the growth of our country, we never had any but tobacco. Now for shipping we have admirable masts and very good oaks; but for iron ore I dare not say there is sufficient to keep one iron mill going for seven years.—*Berkeley's Report, Henning's Statutes of Va.*

Rev. John Clayton, writing on Tobacco Culture in 1686, tells us that in Virginia

'tis only the barrenest Parts that they have cultivated, by tilling and planting only the High Lands, leaving the richer Vales unstirr'd, because they understand not anything of Draining. Therefore every three or four years they must be for clearing a new piece of ground out of Woods, which requires much Labour and Toil. . . . Thus their Plantations run over vast Tracts of Ground, each ambitious or engrossing as much as they can, that they may be sure to have enough to plant . . . whereby the Country is thinly inhabited; the Living solitary and unsoc'able; Trading confused and dispersed; besides other Inconveniences. [And moreover] resolute they are and conceitedly bent to follow their old Practice and Custom, rather than to receive Directions from others, tho' plain, easi'e and advantageous. . . .—*Ferce's Tracts.*

Maryland. 1666.—Alsop's description.

He that desires to see the real Platform of a quiet and sober Government extant, Superiority with a meek and yet commanding power sitting at the Helme, steering the actions of a State quietly, through the multitude and adversity of Opinionous waves that diversely meet, let him look on Maryland . . . *the Miracle of this Age —Hart, I, 268*

Maine.—John Josselyn, in 1675, tells us of the Maine group:

The people . . . may be divided into Magistrates, Husbandmen, or Planters, and fishermen; of the Magistrates some be Royalists, the rest perverse Spirits, the like are the planters and fishers. . . .

The planters have a custom of taking tobacco, sleeping at noon, sitting long at meals sometimes four times a day, and now and then drinking a dram of the bottle extraordinarily: *the smoking of Tobacco, if moderately used refresheth the weary much, and so doth sleep.* . . .

If a man . . . came where they are roystering and gulling in Wine with a dear felicity, he must be sociable and *Roly poly* with them, taking off their liberal cups as freely, or else be gone, which is best for him. . . .—*Josselyn, in Hart, I, 430.*

7. Religion.

The charters from 1584 on put religion as one of the chief motives of the crown in furthering colonization. Nor was this wholly a spiritual spirit with some, as the extract from Peckham given above shows a most keen appreciation of the commercial value of Christianity. But at any rate we always find the crown zealous for conversion—

it being the hon'r of our Crowne, [wrote Chas. II. to the Council in 1660,] and of the Protestant Religion, that all persons in any of our Dominions should be taught the knowledge of God, and be made acquainted with the misteries of Salvation.

William Bradford, in 1607, tells us how the English Puritans,

seeing themselves thus molested and that ther was no hope of their continuance ther [in England] . . . resolved to Low-countrie, wher they heard was freedom of all men.

[And from their wanderings and travels it came that] by . . . troubles, in so many eminent places, their cause became famous, and occasioned many to look into ye same, and their godly carriage and Christian behaviour was such as left a deep impression in the minds of many. And though some few shrunk at these first conflicts, and sharp beginnings [as it was no marvell] yet many more came as with fresh courage, and greatly animated others.

When they resolved to leave Holland for America, to the thousand fears and ill prophecies,

it was answered that all great, and honorable actions, are accompanied with great difficulties; and must be, both enterprised, and overcome with answerable courages. It was granted ye dangers were great, but not desperate, the difficulties were many, but not invincible. For though their were many of them likly yet they were not certaine . . . Their condition was not ordinarie; their ends were good and honorable; their calling lawfull, and urgente; and therefore they might expect ye blessing of God in their proceeding. . . . — *Bradford's History of Mass.*

We foresee from the above what Rev. Peter Bulkeley, in 1651, expressed as that to which New England was called.

There is no people but will strive to excell in some thing; what can we excell in, if not in holinesse? If we look to number, we are the fewest; If to strength, we are the weakest; If to wealth and riches, we are the poorest of all the people of God through the whole world; . . . and if we come short in grace and holinesse too, we are the most despicable people under heaven & . . . strive we therefore herein to excell and suffer not this crown to be taken away from us. . . . — *Hart, I, 452.*

Massachusetts—The Massachusetts Company, in 1629, wrote to their colonists regarding their ministers that

because their Doctrine will hardly bee well esteemed whose persons are not revered, wee desire that both by your owne Example and by commanding all others to do the like, our Ministers may receive due Honor.—*Am Antiquarian Society Proceedings*

Only eight years later Governor Winthrop, when examining Anne Hutchinson, says to her:

Your conscience you must keep or it must be kept for you — [a most comprehensive critique on Puritan theology]—
Hutchison, History of Mass. Bay Colony.

No time was lost in passing laws by which the church forced reverence from all. And things went on this way until, in 1660, Edward Burrough, an English Quaker, gained the king's ear for the miseries of the Massachusetts Quakers. One horrible example is enough:

Two beaten with *pitched ropes*, the blows amounting to *an hundred thirty-nine*, by which one of them was brought near unto death, much of his body being beat *like unto a jelly*, and one of their own Doctors, a Member of their Church, who saw him said, 'It would be a Miracle if ever he recovered, he expecting the flesh should rot off the bones'; who afterwards was banished upon pain of death.—*Hart, I, 484.*

In 1659 Mary Dyer, a condemned Quakeress, wrote a justification to the General Court:

Was ever the like Laws heard of among a People that profess Christ came in the flesh? And have such no other weapons but such Laws, to fight against *Spiritual Wickedness* withall, as you call it? —*Hart, I, 479.*

John Cotton, as sketched by John Norton in 1652, illustrates perfectly the solid and attractive parts of the Puritan minister:

He was a general Scholar, studious to know all things, the want whereof might in one of his profession be denominated ignorance. . . . He was a man of much Communion with God, and acquaintance with his own heart, observing the daily passages of his life. He had a deep sight into the Mystery of God's grace, and man's corruption, and large apprehensions of these things. . . . He began the Sabbath at evening [on Saturday]; therefore then performed Family-duty after supper, being larger than ordinary in Exposition, after which he Catechised his children and servants, and then returned into his Study. . . . Upon his return from Meeting he returned again into his Study . . . unto his private devotion: where (having a small repast carried him up for his dinner) he continued till the tolling of the bell. The publick service being over, he withdrew for a space to his prementioned Oratory for his sacred addresses unto God as in the forenoon; then came down, repeated the sermon in

the family, prayed, after supper sang a Psalm, and towards bed time betaking himself again to his Study, he closed the day with prayer . . . In his Study he neither sat down unto, nor arose from his meditations without prayer: whilst his eyes were upon his book his expectation was from God. He had learned to study because he had learned to pray.—*Hart, I, 337-38.*

Two entertaining Dutch travelers in New England in 1680 give us a very amusing, but rather caustic, account of religion in Boston. One of the ministers being sick, a day of fasting and prayer was observed.

In the first place a minister made a prayer in the pulpit, of full two hours in length; after which an old minister delivered a sermon an hour long, and after that a prayer was made, and some verses sung out of the psalms. In the afternoon, three or four hours were consumed with nothing except prayers, three ministers relieving each other alternately; when one was tired, another went up into the pulpit. There was no more devotion than in other churches, and even less than at New York; no respect, no reverence; in a word, nothing but the name of independents; and that was all.

The ministers seemed to be

persons who seemed to possess zeal but no just knowledge of Christianity. The auditors were very worldly and inattentive. The best of the ministers . . . is a very old man, named John Eliot. . . .

They are all *Independents* in matters of religion, if it can be called religion; many of them perhaps more for the purposes of enjoying the benefit of its privileges than for any regard to truth and godliness. . . . All their religion consists in observing Sunday, by not working or going into the taverns on that day; but the houses are worse than the taverns. No stranger or traveler can therefore be entertained on a Sunday, which begins at sunset on Saturday, and continues until the same time on Sunday. At these two hours you see all their countenances change. Saturday evening the constable goes around into all the taverns of the city . . . stopping all noise and debauchery, which frequently causes him to stop his search, before his search causes the debauchery to stop. There is a penalty for cursing and swearing, such as they please to impose . . . Nevertheless, you discover little difference between this and other places. Drinking and fighting over there not less than elsewhere; and as to truth

and true godliness, you must not expect more of them than of others — *Long Island Hist. Society, Memoirs*.

Alas, the children were not all they should be, either. Chief Justice Sewall tells us how for

his playing at Prayer-time and eating when Return Thanks he whipped his boy Joseph "pretty smartly." [We do not wonder that even Puritan theology failed to repress hunger, but it is a shock to find that there was enough juvenility left to assert itself at such a critical moment.]

Rev. Nathaniel Wood, in 1647, sums up best the Puritan view of toleration in its most virulent form.

To tolerate more these indifferents is not to deale indifferently to God. The power of all Religion and Ordinances, lies in their purity: their purity is their simplicity; then are mixtures pernicious. That state is wise, that will improve all paines and patience rather to compose, then tolerate differences in Religion. He that is willing to tolerate any religion, or discripant way of Religion, besides his own, unless it be in matters meerly indifferent, either doubts of his own, or is not sincere in it. He that is willing to tolerate any unsound Opinion, that his own may also be tolerated, though never so sound, will for a need hang God's Bible at the Devills girdle. Every toleration of false Religion, or Opinions hath as many errors and sins in it, as all the false Religions and Opinions it tolerats and one sound one more. That State that will give Liberty of Conscience in matters of Religion, must give Liberty of Conscience and Conversation in their Morall Laws, or else the Fiddle will be out of tune. . . . There is no rule given by God for any State to give an affirmative Toleration to any false Religion, or Opinion whatsoever; they must connive in some cases, but may not concede in any. — *Hart, I, 394-95*.

Maryland. — It is a relief to turn from this to a colony where toleration was more worthily conceived of. In 1633 Lord Baltimore summed up his long instructions to the colonists with the injunction:

In fine . . . bee very carefull to do justice to every man w'th'out partiality [and the result was, as Alsop wrote in 1666, that] here the Roman Catholick and the Protestant Episcopal . . . concur in an unanimous parallel of friendship, and inseparable love infugled unto one another.

. . . The several Opinions and Sects . . . meet not together in mutinous contempts . . . but with a reverend and quietness obeys the legal commands of Authority.

In 1649 the Maryland Assembly ruled that blaspheming, cursing, denial of or "reproachfull speeches, words or language concerning" the Trinity should be punished with death and forfeiture of goods. But in the same proclamation we read that

noe person . . . professing to beleive in Jesus Christ, shall from henceforth bee any waies troubled, Molested or discountenanced for or in respect of his or her religion nor in the free exercise thereof . . . nor any way compelled to the beleife or exercise of any other Religion against his or her consent, so as they be not unfaithfull to the Lord Proprietary, or molest or conspire against the civill governem't.
. . . —*Archives of Maryland, by Browne.*

Virginia.—

In Virginia the families . . . being seated . . . at such distances from each other, many of them are very remote from the House of God, though placed in the midst of them. Many Parishes as yet want both Churches and Gleabes, and I think not above a fifth part of them are supplied with Ministers, where there are Ministers the people meet together Weekly, but once upon the Lord's day, and sometimes not at all, being hindered by . . . the length or tediousness of the way, through extremities of heat in Summer, frost and Snow in Winter, and tempestuous weather in both. . . . —*Hart, I, 295.*

Rhode Island.—To be contrasted with Ward on toleration we have R. Williams, writing in 1670.

Forced worship stinks in God's nostrils. In these flames about religion . . . there is no other prudent, christian way of preserving peace in the world but by permission of differing consciences. . . . —*Mass. Hist. Society, Collections.*

And Governor Peleg Sandford, in his official report, in 1680, writes:

We leave every Man to walke as God shall persuade their hartes, and doe actively and passively yield obedience to the Civill Magistrate and doe not actively disturb the Civill peace

. . . and have liberty to frequent any meetings of worship for their better instruction and information. . . —
Greene, History of Rhode Island.

Connecticut. —Blue laws of 1672:

If any person . . . Blaspheme the Name of God the Father, Son or Holy Ghost . . . or shall curse in like manner, he shall be put to death.

New York. —Governor Thomas Dongan, of New York, in 1687, writes:

Here bee not many of the Church of England; few Roman Catholicks; abundance of Quakers preachers men and Women especially, Singing Quakers, Ranting Quakers, Sabbatarians; Anti sabbatarians; some Anabaptists some Independents; some Jews, *in short of all sorts of opinions there are some, and the most part of none at all.*—*Documentary History of New York.*

Before this, in 1679, Dankers and Sluyter went to religious service in New York.

As it is not strange in these countries to have men as ministers who drink, we could imagine nothing else than that he had been drinking a little this morning. His text was, *Come unto me all ye, etc.*, but he was so rough that even the roughest and most godless of our sailors were astonished.

QUESTIONS ON THE TEXT.

1. Name the reasons given for colonizing. 2. What class of emigrants came, judging from the text? 3. What change between 1637 and 1660 in regard to allowing emigration? 4. What do the accounts in regard to ocean voyages show in regard to character of emigrants? 5. What did the early voyagers say regarding the Indians? 6. How did the king dispose of part of the land? 7. How were settlers enticed to come to America? 8. How did the settlers in Virginia get wives? 9. What land was granted in the first charter, 1606? 10. What classes were stockholders in the second charter, 1609? 11. When did the first House of Burgesses of Virginia sit? 12. What contest in regard to taxes between the people of Watertown and Massachusetts Bay? 13. What can you learn from the Mayflower compact? 14. Meaning of the punishment of a deputy for questioning the right of the governor to the "negative voice." 15. What did Winthrop believe in regard to his power as governor? 16. What religious denominations complained of their treatment? 17. When and what was the first popular constitution? 18. Can you find any indications of a spirit of rebellion? 19. Were the Puritans superstitious? 20. Were their laws harsh? their punishments? 21. Name the industries you find men-

tioned 22. Were they good farmers? 23. Trace the journey of the Pilgrims from England to Plymouth. 24. Were the Puritans tolerant? 25. What kind of a man was Rev John Cotton? 26. What does the testimony prove in regard to the morals of the colonists? 27. What peculiar attribute do you find in Maryland? 28. What colony would you have preferred to live in? why?

SUGGESTIVE QUESTIONS

a. How would you explain the intolerant spirit so often manifested? b. Point out institutions existing now that had their beginning in 17th century. c. Did the theory and the practice of the Puritan coincide? d. Trace the development of witchcraft. Do you find its basis in life depicted in above extracts? e. Name the lessons you may learn from this study?




THE DEVELOPMENT OF UNION AMONG THE COLONIES

New England Confederation, 1643—Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Haven, and Plymouth members; ended 1684 Meeting of five colonies, 1690. Albany Congress 1754 The Stamp Act Congress, 1765 First Colonial Congress, 1774, Second National Congress, 1775 Declaration of Independence 1776 Articles of Confederation, proposed, 1776, formulated, 1777, submitted to states, 1777, ratified by Maryland, the last state, 1781

CHAPTER II

DEVELOPMENT OF UNION AMONG THE COLONIES

I.

HE several colonies were planted at different times, by different interests, and in some cases by different races. The geography of the country was such that there was very little communication and intercourse between the various colonies for many years. The soil and climate also tended to produce divergent interests and civilizations. The intolerant religious spirit of the age lent itself also to the same tendency. On the whole, one sometimes wonders that the colonies came together as easily as they did in support of interests that were not always clearly in common.

It is very difficult frequently to find an extract that is sufficiently condensed and pointed, which may be cited, to bring out some force that tended to prevent union or was, on the other hand, aiding it. Especially have I found it difficult to get quotable extracts on the effects of geography. In general it is by inference only that one gathers his conclusions. In the extracts given it has in general seemed best to give those that brought out the salient movements looking toward union, rather than to give those that emphasized the divergent tendencies of the time. I wish to emphasize the fact that the study of sources means that every word and phrase is to receive careful consideration. The value of the training consists to a considerable

extent in acquiring the ability to read between the lines, to draw inferences, to find the spirit or motive which prompted to word or act.

It is hoped that the extracts quoted this month may illustrate not only the fact that various attempts to unite were made, but also drive home the character of the union possible, and the kind of union which the colonies sought and which the mother country attempted to force on them. It will be an interesting exercise to trace the expansion of the idea of union and to classify the factors which were at work; also to follow the changes in the nature of the union which were outlined in the various proposals from 1643 to 1776. Less weight has been given to the congresses of 1765 and 1774 than might seem necessary from their prominence. The reason for this is that the union movement then was rather unconscious, an accessory to the more palpable thoughts,—first that of a redress of grievances, and later that of independence. The Causes of the Revolution, which will be our subject for next month, will give us the opportunity to study this period as it deserves.

The following extracts are taken largely from the colonial records as reprinted by the various states. Massachusetts began this work as early as 1792 and has developed it till now her various historical publications are numbered almost by the hundreds. New York has also reprinted, or printed from manuscript, thousands of pages of letters, laws, reports, and other documents. The same is true of Connecticut and other states. It is from these documents that we can draw and yet scarcely make an impression in the limited space at our command.

I wish to thank the many who write words of encouragement concerning the work which we are attempting to outline. Certainly the idea

that history may be studied in part from the sources in our graded schools is spreading. In some cases it is well done, as I know by receipt of the results in the form of papers. I desire to call the attention of teachers elsewhere to the plan of the West Superior, Wis., schools, where the papers are printed in a neat little volume, 100 copies printed, costing less than \$16. The local paper published each student paper as it was completed, then put them together at a mere 'nominal cost. I doubt not that every town has some local paper that would do likewise. Principal Griffin has evidently found an added incentive to good work, and even to real contributions to local history in some cases.

But I wish also to say that some criticisms come to me. One teacher suggests that the spelling of her pupils is not improved by working over the old manuscripts. Shall the spelling be modernized, or shall we have the old flavor of our forefathers, trusting to some device to avoid the evil, if such it be, of which mention has been made? Will not the teachers discuss this question pro and con in letters to me? Perhaps a more serious danger is suggested by another who says: How do we know that Mr. Caldwell can or does make extracts in such a way as to give a true picture of the times? How do we know that the writers he cites are representative, are good witnesses? Well, the mere fact that such questions can be asked shows that in part, at least, our work is done. The critical faculty is awake, and the word of any one text will perhaps not necessarily be unhesitatingly followed hereafter. I can only answer that I try to be fair. My judgment is not infallible, and my knowledge is not encyclopædic, so I can only ask such confidence as an honest desire deserves. By all means

II.

As early as 1637 references may be found in the colonial records pointing to a desire for union among the colonies. The following extracts will afford some insight into the motives and spirit that animated them in their actions at this time:

It is ordered that the letter lately sent to the Governor by Mr. Eaton, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Coddington, & Mr. Brereton, . . . , shalbee thus answered by the Governor: that the Court doth assent to all the ppositions (propositions) layde downe in the aforesaid letter, but that the answer shalbee directed to Mr. Eaton, Mr. Hopkins, & Mr. Haynes, onely excluding Mr. Coddington & Mr. Brenton, as men not to bee capitulated wthall by us, either for themselves or the people of the iland (Rhode Island) where they inhabite, as their case standeth. • [Oct. 7, 1640.]—*Massachusetts Colonial Records, I, p. 305.*

1. At this court (7 Mo 22 day 1642) the propositions sent from Connecticut [to Massachusetts] about a combination, &c were read, and referred to a committee to consider of after the court, who meeting, added some few cautions and new articles, and for the taking in of Plimouth (who were now willing,) and Sir Ferdinando Gorges province, and so returned them back to Connecticut, to be considered upon against the spring, for winter was now approaching, and there could be no meeting before, etc.—*Winthrop, History of New England, II, pp. 102-103.*

2. At this court (Mo. 3, 10, 1643) came the commissioners from Plimouth, Connecticut and New Haven, viz: from Plimouth Mr. Edward Winslow and Mr. Collins, from Connecticut Mr. Haynes and Mr. Hopkins, with whom Mr. Fenwick of Saybrook joyned, from New Haven Mr. Theophilus Eaton and Mr. Grigson. Our court chose a committee to treat with them viz: the governour [John Winthrop] and Mr. Dudley, and Mr. Brodstreet, being of the magistrates; and of the deputies, Captain Gibbons, Mr. Tyng the treasurer and Mr. Hathorn. These coming to consultation encountered some difficulties, but being all desirous of union and studious of peace, they readily yielded each to other in such things as tended to common utility, &c, so as in some two or three meetings they lovingly accorded upon these ensuing articles, which, being allowed by, our court,

and signed by all the commissioners, were sent to be also ratified by the general courts of other jurisdictions; . . . —
Winthrop, History of New England, vol. II, p. 121f.

By reason of ye plottings of the Narigansets, . . .
 the Indians were drawn into a general conspiracie against
 ye English in all parts, as was in part discovered ye yeare
 before . . . ; [this caused the Colonies] to thinke of
 means how to prevente ye same, and secure them selves.
 Which made them enter into this new union & confederation
 following. [The articles follow.]—*Bradford, History of
 Plymouth Plantation, p. 416.*

ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION.

WHEREAS we all came into these parts of America with the
 same end and aim, namely, to advance the kingdom of our
 Lord Jesus Christ, and to enjoy the liberties of the gospel
 in purity with peace; and whereas by our settling, by the
 wise providence of God, we are further dispersed upon the
 seacoast and rivers than was at first intended, so that we
 cannot, according to our desire, with convenience commu-
 nicate in one government . . . ; and whereas we live
 encompassed with people of several nations and strange
 languages, which hereafter may prove injurious to us or our
 posterity; and for as much as the natives have formerly
 committed sundry insolences, . . . and have of late
 combined themselves against us, and seeing by reason of the
 sad distractions in England (which they have heard of,) and
 by which they know we are hindered . . . of seeking
 advice, and reaping . . . protection, which at other
 times we might well expect; we therefore do conceive it our
 bounden duty, . . . to enter into a present consocia-
 tion . . . for mutual help and strength . . . , that,
 as in nation and religion, so in other respects, we be and
 continue one, . . . :

I Wherefore it is fully agreed . . . between parties
 above named, . . . that they . . . be called by the
 name of the United Colonies of New England.

II These united colonies . . . enter into a firm and
 perpetual league of friendship and amity . . . both for
 preserving and propagating the truth and liberties of the
 gospel, and for . . . safety . . .

III. It is further agreed, that the plantations which at
 present are or hereafter shall be settled within the limits of the
 Massachusetts, shall be forever under the government of the

Massachusetts, and shall have jurisdiction among themselves in all cases as an entire body; [same provision follows in regard to Connecticut, Plymouth, and New Haven] . . . provided that no other jurisdiction shall . . . be taken in as a distinct head or member of this confederation, nor shall any other . . . be received by any of them; nor shall any two . . . join in one jurisdiction, without consent of the rest, . . .

IV. It is also . . . agreed, that the charge of all just wars, . . . shall, both in men and provisions . . . be borne, . . . , in manner following, viz [in proportion to number of males from 16 to 60 years of age.]

V. It is further agreed, that if any of these jurisdictions, . . . be invaded by any enemy whatsoever, upon notice and request of any three [or two under conditions] magistrates of that jurisdiction so invaded, the rest of the confederates, . . . shall . . . send aid . . . [as follows:] Massachusetts one hundred men [furnished] . . . , and each of the rest 45 men so armed . . .

VI. It is also agreed, that for the managing . . . of all affairs . . . concerning the whole confederation, commissioners shall be chosen [as follows:] two for the Massachusetts, two for Plymouth, two for Connecticut, and two for New Haven, all in church fellowship with us, . . . to hear . . . and determine . . . all affairs of war or peace, leagues, aids, charges, . . . [This section also specifies place of meeting, etc.]

VIII. . . . It is also agreed, that if any servant run away from his master into any of these confederate jurisdictions, . . . upon certificate of one magistrate in the jurisdiction out of which the said servant fled, . . . the said servant shall be delivered to his master . . . [In general the same provision in regard to criminals.]

XI. [The last article pertains to breaches of the articles.]

Lastly, this perpetual confederation, and the several articles and agreements . . . were . . . certified [as completed] at the next meeting held in Boston, (7) 7, 1648.

—*Winthrop, History of New England, vol. II, p. 121f.*

The English Commissioners to New England, in 1665, pass the following, among other resolutions:

There is no power in the charter [of Massachusetts] to incorporate with other colonies, nor to exercise any power

by that association: both belongs to the kings prerogative. If there be any other undecent expressions & repetitions of the word "commonwealth," "state," and the like, in other pages, wee desire they may bee changed.—*Massachusetts Colonial Records, vol. IV, pt. 2, p. 213.*

To this the General Court of Massachusetts sent the following reply:—

. . . And also considering that they were severall colonies under one king, & come from their native country for one & the same end, & were here scattered at a great distance amongst the wild salvages in a vast wilderness, had no walled townes or garrisons of souldjers for their defence, they apprehended the least they could doe was to enter into a league of amity and union one with another, ingaging, . . . jointly to assist each other . . . , this being the end of their then confederating, . . . to the end that as our distance of place one from another rendered us weake, & layd us open to their rage and violence, so our union might be as well to them a terror as to us strength; & through the goodness of God, wee have hitherto had large experience of the great good that by this confederation hath redounded, not only to all his majesties subjects here planted, but even to the natives themselves, it having been a means to prevent much trouble & bloodshed among themselves, so that although since that warr [the Pequod] some of them have . . . put us to a considerable charge . . . , yet no massacre hath beene among us from that day to this, blessed be God for it. —*Massachusetts Colonial Records, vol. IV, pt. 2, p. 231.*

Again, the General Court says that the commissioners seem to desire

to make a flame in the country . . . by their high favors to discontented persons, & great countenance given to the Road Islanders, whose first rise and continuance hath beene such to the other colonies as is not unknowne to any discreet observer in these parts; and on the other hand, calling . . . the United Colonies that usurped authority contrary to the light of reason, . . . which therefore made it seeme to be their speciall design to disunite the colonies & so to bring us unto ruine —*Ib., pp. 233-34.*

To the Assembly of Maryland, by Jacob Leisler.

A. D. 1689: 29th September in the fort of New York.

GENTLEMEN—I have received your acceptable letter the

18 of this instant & communicated as directed, we have considered the contents with due affection, & . . . embrace with all our hearts your offers of a mutuall & amiable correspondence with you, which we shall labor to keep & preserve inviolable towards you, and without fail shall omit nothing that may appeare any wayes to your intrest peace & welfare as we also doe with Boston & Connecticutt collony being of the same opinion with you, that it is the onely means to preserve . . . their majestie's interests. [King William and Queen Mary] . . . [Similar letters sent to Mass., Conn., etc.]—*Documentary History of New York*, vol. II, p. 19.

Agents of four colonies and several Indian chiefs met in 1684 to consider union. One of the sachems addressed the Massachusetts agent as follows:

We all, namely, our governor, the governor of Virginia and the Massachusetts Coloney, and Maquese, are in one covenant. We do plant here a great tree of peace, whose branches spread so far as the Massachusetts Coloney, Virginia, Maryland, and all that are in friendship with us and do live in peace, unity, and tranquility, under the shade of said tree—*Mass. Archives, XXX, p. 303*; cited in *Frothingham*.

Governor Treat, of Connecticut, wrote to Governor Bradstreet, July 31, 1689, in part, as follows:

I hope we shall be willing in the season of it, to revive the ancient confederation upon just terms and articles, holding forth a right consideration of our state compared with the other colonies—*Frothingham, Rise of the U. S. Republic*, p. 87, note.

Governor Bradstreet wrote, February 3, 1689-90, in the same spirit:

All true Englishmen [ought] to lay aside their private animosities and intestine discords, and to unite against the common enemy.—*Ib.*, 88

Circular to the Governors of the several provinces:

NEW YORK, April 2d, 1690:

HONBLE SIR:—[After stating danger from French and Indians, Governor Leister says, we] have likewise communi-

cated the same to the Governor of Boston, & the Gentlemen of Connecticut are likewise advertised thereof, in so much that wee propose for a generall assistance that such persons as to you shall seem meet may be commissioned to treat with them of New England, Virginia, pensilvania and Jerseys, that we may conclude what may conduce most to the King's intrest, wellfare of the provinces. . . .—*Documentary History of New York*, vol. II, p. 117.

A. D. 1690 ye 30 Apprill: in N. Yorke.

GENTLEMENS—Last monday arrived heer the Comintioners off [of] Boston Plimouth en Caneticot who have been taking [talking] off several businis concerning the Indian war. . . . [Signed Jacob Leisler.]—*Ib.*, p. 133.

N YORKE, Primo May 1690.

At a meeting of ye commissioners of ye Province of New York & ye collonies of ye Massachusetts, Plymouth & Connecticut,

It is concluded . . . that each of ye Collonies aforesd shall Provide and furnish ye undermenconed proporcons of Souldiers with Answerable Provisions at their own Charges to Be sent with all Speed:—

viz:

By New Yorke four hundred	400
By Massachusetts Colony one hundred & sixty	160
By Connecticut Colony one hundred & thirty five	135
By Plymouth Colony sixty	60
By Maryland by Promise one hundred	100

In all eight hundred fifty five 855

Further agreed [various things mentioned] That ye Officers Be required to maintain good order Amongst ye Souldiers to discountenance & Punish Vice & as much as may be to Keep ye Sabbath and Maintain ye Worship of God.

JACOB LEISLER.

WILLIAM STOUGHTON.

SAML SEWELL.

P. D. LANCY.

JOHN WALLEY.

NATHAN GOLD.

WILLIAM PETRIN.

—*Massachusetts Archives*, XXXVI, 47.

Leisler in a letter to the governments of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island, attempting to secure additional aid, said:

I hope you will not be wanting so blessed a work at this time to please God and our gracious king. Losing the opportunity and neglecting the season may cause the next generation to curse us. —*Frothingham, p. 93.*

Though the French colony contains, perhaps, not 30000 men capable to bear arms; yet these are all under the despotic command and sole direction of their Governor-General, . . . The strength of our colonies, on the other hand, is divided, and the concurrence of all necessary both for supplies of men and money. Jealous they are of each other; some ill constituted; others shaken with intestine divisions, and if I may be allowed the expression, parsimonious even to prodigality. Our assemblies are diffident of their Governors; Governors despise their assemblies, and both mutually misrepresent each other to the court of Great Britain. Military measures demand secrecy and dispatch; but while the colonies remain divided, and nothing can be transacted but with their universal assent, it is impossible to maintain the one or proceed with the other. Without a general constitution for warlike operations, we can neither plan nor execute. We have a common interest, and must have a common council; *one head and one purse.* [An extract from a letter supposed to have been written by Gov. Livingston of New York, and his friends Messrs W Smith and Scott, 1758]—*Massachusetts Hist. Society Col., series I, vol. VII, pp. 161-62.*

Mr. Nelson's memorial about the state of the northern colonies in America:

24 Sept: 1696

Fifthly I am now to make another remark upon the principall, and greatest defect and mistake, in which we have been, and are yet under, I meane the number and independency of so many small Governments, whereby our strength is not only divided and weakened, but by reason of their severall interests, are become and doe in a manner esteeme each as foreigners the one unto the other, soe that whatever mischiefs doth happen in one part, the rest by the reason of this disunion remaine unconcerned and our strength thereby weakened; whereas were the Colonies of New England,

Hampshire, Road Island, Conecticot, New York joined in one, we then should be near to [ten?] or 15 for one of those of the French in Canada, and might reasonably propose . . . to make an entire conquest of that place. . .
— *New York Colonial Records*, vol. IV, p. 209.

MR. PENN'S PLAN OF UNION. [1698].

A Briefe and Plaine Scheam how the English Colonies in the North parts of America, viz Boston, Connecticut, Road Island New York New Jerseys, Pensilvania, Maryland, Virginia and Carolina may be made more useful. to the Crowne, and to one anothers peace and safty with an universall concurrence

1st That the Severall colonies before mentioned do meet once a year, and oftener if need be, during the war, and at least once in two years in times of peace, by their stated and appointed deputies, to debate and resolve . . . [on measures for public good]

2. That in order to it two persons well qualified for sence sobriety and substance be appointed by each Province, as their Representatives . . . [in Congress].

3 That the Kings Commissioner for that purpose specially appointed shall have the Chaire and preside in the said Congresse

4. [Central meeting place.]

5 [Suggests governor of New York as King's Commissioner]

6. That their business shall be to hear and adjust all matters of Complaint or difference between Province and Province As 1st where persons quit their own Province and goe to another, that they may avoid their just debts . . . , 2d where offenders fly justice, . . . , 3dly to prevent or cure injuries in point of commerce, 4th, to consider of ways and means to support the union and safety of these Provinces against the publick enemies In which Congresse the Quotas of men and charges will be much easier, and more equally sett, than it is possible for any establishment made here to do; for the Provinces, knowing their own condition and one anothers, can debate that matter with more freedome, and satisfaction and better adjust and ballance their affairs in all respects for their common safty.

7ly That in times of war the Kings High Commissioner shall be generall or Chief Commander . . . — *New York Colonial Documents*, vol. IV, p. 296.

From the scheme of Gov. Livingston, recommended to the Lords of Trade, May 13, 1701:

To settle the American Governments to the greatest possible advantage, it will be necessary to reduce the number of them; in some places to unite and consolidate; in others to separate and transfer; and in general to divide by natural boundaries instead of imaginary lines. If there should be but one form of government established for the North-American provinces, it would greatly facilitate the reformation of them. . . . A nobility appointed by the king for life and made independent, would probably give strength and stability to American governments as effectually as hereditary nobility does to that of Great Britain—*Cited in Frothingham, p. 117.*

Shirley says in a letter dated Oct. 21, 1754, to Governor Morris, newly appointed governor of Pennsylvania:

The best advice I can give you is to lose no time for promoting the plan of a union of the colonies for their mutual defence, to be concerted at home, and established by act of Parliament as soon as possible . . . I am laboring this point *totis viribus*.—*Ibid, p. 146.*

Daniel Coxe, 1722, proposed that all the British colonies be

united under a legal, regular, and firm establishment, over which a lieutenant or supreme governor should be constituted and appointed to preside on the spot, to whom the governors of each colony should be subordinate; . . . that two deputies should be annually elected by the council and assembly of each province, who are to be in the nature of a great council or general convention of the states of the colonies [to fix on quotas of men and money which] should be levied and raised by its own assembly in such manner as they should judge most easy and convenient.—*Cited by Frothingham, p. 113.*

About 1725, when a proposal had been made by the Massachusetts assembly for a convention of all the colonies, it was pronounced by the Board of Trade as "a mutinous proposal."—*Hutchinson's History of Mass., vol. III, p. 119.*

The following extracts give us an insight into the conditions from the standpoint of the colonial governors:

Reasons why this great undertaking of building of New Forts &c extending the English settlements into the Indian country is not effected as begun by this Province alone.

6thly We have late experience how ineffectual Her Majesty's circular letters in the late war did prove, appointing the several Governors to send Commissioners to New York to agree upon certain quotas of men, and for a supply of money, and tho' the Governors of Virginia and Maryland did prevail with their people to assist us with some money, yet could not prevail with them to send any men; some of the commissioners came others came not; those that came refused to act without the rest, and gave reason enough to believe they were fond of the opportunity of that colour, by various excuses, doubts, fears and jealousies; so parted doing nothing. —*New York Colonial Documents, vol. IV, 873.*

To carry on this design of extending the Christian settlements and English forts into the Indian country for the security of all His Majesty's Plantations on this North Continent of America;—

I humbly begg leave to propose that it is best to be done in time of peace with France. 1st That one form of government be establish'd in all the neighbouring colonies on this main continent.

That they be divided into three distinct governments—to-wit.

That Virginia and Maryland be annexed to South and North Carolina.

That some part of Connecticut, New York, East and West Jersey, Pennsylvania and New Castle be added together.

And that to Massachusetts be added New Hampshire and Rhoad Island and the rest of Connecticut.—*Ibid, p. 874.*

The degree of union is well illustrated by the following extract from a letter of Gov. Fletcher:

Our neighbours on the Right and left sitt at ease, they govern by theirs own Fancies, Connecticutt full of people keep up a Comonwealth Power, oppress the better sort who dissent from them but will not send a man or sixpence to *our relief.*

And from that Collony I could march up men dry foot to Repell our Enemies, from hence we have a voyage of fifty leagues to Albany, In my absence the Councill here writ to all the neighbouring Collonies for men or money, the Republick of Connecticutt quarrell att the Superscription of the Councills letter for want of theire proper Title —*Ibid*

From Pensilvania they say they have nothing to send us but theire good wishea. East Jersey has sent us £248 and promiss to make itt £400 those remoter Collonies I have not yet heard from Nothing in my sight but an addition of Connecticutt and some other Colonys can support us by paying equall duties to the Crown, the Acts of Navigation are wholly violated by these out lyers. . . . I send this to Boston in hopes of a passage from thence if Sr William Phips do not intercept it.—*New York Colonial Documents, vol. IV, p. 13.*

The governor of New York writes as follows of the conditions in America:

Notwithstanding their Maj^{ty} Lett^{rs} Mandatorie to the severall governments to assist this Province little or no assistance had been given or can be hoped for through the remoteness of some Governments and Excuses and delays of others.

That Pensilvania being most Quakers will give no men or money for warr unless they were joined to the Government of New York, by which that Province may be able to out-vote them.

That this Province lying under heavy Taxes and Pressures, most of the young men and those that can in any way remove, depart this Province to the neighbouring Government where they are wholly free from Tax or any other Contrybution towards the Common Security.—*Ibid, p. 53.*

A NEW STAGE—THE ALBANY CONGRESS—INSTRUCTIONS TO COMMISSIONERS.

William Shirley, Esq Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England,

To Samuel Welles, John Chandler, Thomas Hutchinson, Oliver Partridge, and John Worthington Esq^{rs} Greeting.
Whereas, in pursuance of letters from the right honorable the Lords Commissioners for Trade and the Plantations, . . . a General Convention of Commissioners for their

respective Governments is appointed to be held at the city of Albany in the month of June next [1754] for holding an interview with the Indians of the Five Nations and making them presents on the part of said Governments usual upon such occasions, in order to confirm and establish their ancient attachment to his Majesty and their constant friendship to his Majesty's subjects on this continent; and whereas the Great and General Court or assembly of the Province of Massachusetts Bay aforesaid, have elected and appointed you to represent and appear for said Province at the Convention aforesaid for the purposes abovementioned; as also for entering into articles of Union and Confederation with the aforesaid Governments for the general defence of his Majesty's subjects and interests in North America, as well in time of peace as of war:—

Now I do, by these presents, empower and commissionate you, the said Samuel Wells, John Chandler, Thomas Hutchinson, Oliver Partridge, and John Worthington, as Commissioners (or any three of you) to appear for and represent the Province of Massachusetts Bay aforesaid.

Given under my hand and the public seal of the Province of Massachusetts Bay aforesaid, the nineteenth day of April, 1754, in the twenty seventh year of his Majesty's reign

W. SHIRLEY.

By his Excellency's command:

J. WILLARD, *Secretary*.

A true copy.

Attest: SAMUEL WELLER
JOHN CHANDLER.
OL'R PARTRIDGE.
JOHN WORTHINGTON.

Similar instructions were given to the commissioners from the other provinces.—*Massachusetts Historical Collections*, vol. V, 3d series, p. 9.

It was proposed by the Governor, that to avoid all disputes about the precedency of the colonies, they should be named in the minutes according to their situation from north to south; which was agreed to.—*Ibid*, p. 26.

A motion was made that the Commissioners deliver their opinion whether a Union of all the Colonies is not at present absolutely necessary to their security and defence. The question was accordingly put, and it was decided in the

affirmative unanimously . . . Which proposed the Board determined to proceed upon after they had considered some method of effecting the Union between the Colonies — *Ibid.* pp. 27-28.

After debates held on the plan of a Union, it was moved if the Board should proceed to form the plan of a Union of the Colonies, [it ought] to be established by an Act of Parliament. — *Ibid.*, p. 39.

That the said Colonies being in a divided disunited, state, there has never been any joint exertion of their force or counsels to repel or defeat the measures of the French, and particular Colonies are unable and unwilling to maintain the cause of the whole — *Ibid.*, p. 67.

It is proposed that humble application be made for an Act of parliament of Great Britain, by virtue of which one general government may be formed in America, including all the said colonies, within and under which government each colony may retain its present constitution, except in the particulars wherein a change may be directed by the said Act, as hereinafter follows. . . .

That the said general government be administered by a President General, to be appointed and supported by the Crown; and a Grand Council, to be chosen by the representatives of the people of the several Colonies met in their respective Assemblies.

That the House of Representatives [of each colony] may and shall choose members for the Grand Council, in the following proportion, that is to say,

Massachusetts.....	7	Maryland.....	4
New Hampshire.....	2	Virginia.....	7
Connecticut.....	6	North Carolina.....	4
Rhode Island.....	2	South Carolina.....	4
New York.....	4		—
New Jersey.....	8		48
Pennsylvania.....	6		

. . . That there shall be a new election of members of the Grand Council every three years. . . .

That after the first three years, when the proportion of money arising out of each colony to the general treasury can be known, the number of members to be chosen for each colony shall from time to time . . . be regulated by that proportion, yet so as that the number to be chosen by any one province be not more than seven, nor less than two.

. . . That the assent of the President-General be requisite to

all acts of the Grand Council, and that it be his office and duty to cause them to be carried into execution. . . .

That they raise and pay soldiers and build forts for the defence of any of the colonies, and equip vessels of force to guard the coasts and protect the trade on the ocean, lakes or great rivers; but they shall not impress men in any colony, without the consent of the Legislature.

That for these purposes they have power to make laws, and lay and levy such general duties, imposts or taxes, as to them shall appear most equal and just (considering the ability and other circumstances of the inhabitants in the several colonies), and such as may be collected with the least inconvenience to the people; rather discouraging luxury, than loading industry with unnecessary burdens.

. . . That laws made by them for the purposes aforesaid shall not be repugnant, but, as near as may be, agreeable to the laws of England, and shall be transmitted to the King in Council for approbation, as soon as may be after their passing, and if not disapproved within three years after presentation, to remain in force. . . .

And all civil officers are to be nominated by the Grand Council, and to receive the President-General's approbation before they officiate.—*Ib.*, pp. 70-75.

Franklin, in 1789, speaks of the results of the rejection of the Albany plan of union of 1754 as follows:

On reflection, it now seems probable that, if the foregoing plan, or something like it had been adopted and carried into execution, the subsequent separation of the colonies from the Mother-country might not so soon have happened, nor the mischiefs suffered on both sides have occurred, perhaps, during another century. For the colonies, if so united, would have really been, as they then thought themselves, sufficient to their own defence,—and being trusted with it, as by the plan, an army from Britain for that purpose, would have been unnecessary. The pretences for framing the Stamp Act would then not have existed, nor the other projects for drawing a revenue from America to Britain by acts of parliament, which were the cause of the breach, and attended with such terrible expense of blood and treasure, so that the different parts of the empire might still have remained in peace and union. But the fate of this plan was singular. After many days' thorough discussion of all its

at ¹, in Congress, it was unanimously agreed to, and copies ordered to be sent to the assembly of each province for concurrence, and one to the ministry in England for approbation of the crown.

The crown disapproved it, as having too much weight in the democratic part of the constitution, and every assembly as having allowed too much to prerogative; so it was totally rejected.—*Cited in Frothingham, p. 149.*

Nothing can exceed the jealousy and emulation which they possess in regard to each other. The inhabitants of Pennsylvania and New York have an inexhaustible source of animosity in their jealousy for the trade of the Jerseys. Massachusetts Bay and Rhode Island are not less interested in that of Connecticut . . . were they left to themselves, there would soon be a civil war from one end of the continent to the other.—*Ib., p. 152.*

The circular to the various colonies, prepared by the legislature of Massachusetts, calling for a congress of the colonies, dated July 8, 1765, reads as follows:

Sir,—The House of Representatives of this province, in the present session of General Court, have unanimously agreed to propose a meeting . . . of committees from the houses of representatives or burgesses of the several British colonies on this continent, [give reasons] and to consider of a general and united . . . representation of their condition. . . —*Niles, Principles and Acts of the American Revolution, p. 155.*

In organizing the Congress Oct. 7, 1765, it was decided that the committee of each colony shall have one voice (vote) only in determining any question that shall rise in the congress.—*Ib., 162.*

Wednesday, Oct. 9th, 1765, A. M.— . . . The congress resumed the consideration of the rights and privileges of the British American colonists, &c. . . —*Ib., 162.*

Thursday, Oct. 24, 1765, A. M.— . . . The Congress took into consideration the manner in which their several petitions should be preferred and solicited in Great Britain, and thereupon came to the following determination, viz:

It is recommended by the Congress to the several colonies to appoint special agents for soliciting relief from their present grievances, and to unite their utmost interests and endeavors for that purpose.—*Ib., 162.*

One stanza of a "song sung at Boston, in New England," 1765, entitled "Advice from the Country," is of interest in this connection:

With us of the woods
Lay aside your fine goods,
Contentment depends not on fine clothes
We hear, smell and see,
Taste and feel with high glee,
And in winter have huts for repose.

In 1766 an article appears signed "A British American."—*Frothingham*, 194.

Sam. Adams, Sept. 16, 1771, writes in the "Boston Gazette":

I have often thought that in this time of common distress, it would be the wisdom of the colonists more frequently to correspond with and to be more attentive to the particular circumstances of each other. . . . The colonists form one political body of which each is a member. . . . The liberties of the whole are invaded; it is therefore the interest of the whole to support each individual with all their weight and influence.—*Frothingham*, p. 263.

In the House of Burgesses in Virginia, March, 1773

And whereas the affairs of the colony are frequently connected with those of Great Britain, as well as the neighboring colonies . . . therefore . . . *Be it resolved*, that a standing committee of [11 including Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson] be appointed . . . whose business it shall be to obtain [information concerning acts of British government] and to keep up and maintain a correspondence . . . with her sister colonies. . . . *Resolved*, that the speaker of this House do transmit to the speakers of the different assemblies copies of the said resolutions . . . and request them to appoint some person or persons . . . to communicate from time to time with the said committee.—*Cited in Frothingham*, pp. 280-81.

This is no time for ceremony. The question before the House is one of awful moment to this country. For my own part I consider it as nothing less than a question of freedom or slavery; and in proportion to the magnitude of the subject ought to be the freedom of the debate. It is only in this way that we can hope to arrive at truth, and fulfil the great responsibility which we hold to God and our
Should I keep back my opinions at such a time,

through fear of giving offense, I should consider myself as guilty of treason toward my country . . .

They tell us, sir, that we are weak; unable to cope with so formidable an adversary. . . . Sir, we are not weak, if we make a proper use of the means which the God of nature hath placed in our power. Three millions of people, armed in the holy cause of liberty, and in such a country as we possess, are invincible by any force which one enemy can send against us.

Patrick Henry, March 28, 1775, in Virginia Convention —
Cited in American Orations, p. 188.

QUESTIONS.

1. Why were Mr. Coddington and Mr. Brereton not to be communicated with by the governor of Massachusetts?
2. What does it prove in regard to union?
3. What colony made the first movement toward confederation?
4. Name the provinces in New England, 1640.
5. Who were magistrates?
6. Who were deputies?
7. Name reasons for union in 1643.
8. Who was Bradford?
9. Who was Winthrop?
10. Did the colonies have the right to form the confederation?
11. Do you find any evidences of jealousy among the colonies?
12. What were the terms of union?
13. Were they just?
14. What qualification for being a "commissioner"?
15. What provisions in our present constitution can you find in the confederacy of 1643?
16. Did the English government approve of the confederacy?
17. What claims did the colonists make in regard to the benefits of the confederation?
18. Why did the English "commissions" dislike the use of the words state, commonwealth, etc., by the colonists?
19. Were the English "commissions" and the colonists on good terms? Why?
20. Was Jacob Leisler for union?
21. How did the Indian feel about unity?
22. What did Governor Treat mean by the "ancient confederation"?
23. Under what name do you find Massachusetts sometimes spoken of?
24. Was Jacob Leisler an educated man?
25. Name the various times when there was a union more or less perfect.
26. Which were most numerous in America, the English or the French?
27. Why did the French get possession of so large a part of America, about 1760?
28. Name the reasons given by Gov. Livingston.
29. What remedy was proposed for the weakness of the English?
30. Can you see that union was wished for different purposes?
31. Why did the English wish to unite the colonies?
32. Why did the colonies desire to form a union?
33. Name the means the party of the "prerogative," the English party, proposed to bring about unity.
34. Do you approve of Mr. Penn's plan of union?
35. Which the better, his, or that of Governor Livingston, 1701?
36. Name the various persons who proposed plans of union.
37. Who were the greatest among them?
38. How did the Board of Trade like conventions?
39. Why did Governor

Fletcher not expect any help from Pennsylvania? 40
Trace the steps that led to the Albany congress. 41 Why
were the colonies named in order from north to south? 42.
How are they ordinarily named now? 43. Who authorized
the union? 44 Name the points in the plan of Franklin
for a union. 1754 45 Why were these articles of confed-
eration rejected by the colonies? by England? 46. Compare
this plan with that of 1643 47 Which the better? 48.
Importance of the word American as used about 1766 49.
Why did the colonies desire to unite about 1765? 50 Write
all you can on the significance of the phrase "A British-
American " 51. What were the committees of correspond-
ence? 52 In what states was the idea of having them con-
ceived? 53 How did Patrick Henry regard union? 54.
What kind of union was possible? 55 Write an essay trac-
ing the growth of the idea of union. 56. How is the poetry
connected with the topic of union?

CAUSES OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Industrial, social, religious, and political causes for the Revolution may be found. Begins really with the first settlement of the country. Navigation Acts, 1680, 1684, 1672, important. Molasses Act, 1732, aids. Leaders, George III, from his aims; in America, Patrick Henry and Samuel Adams. Means of Agitation and Union, Committees of Correspondence, local and state. Important dates, 1761, 1765, 1768, 1770, 1773, 1774, 1775, 1776.

CHAPTER III

CAUSES OF AMERICAN REVOLUTION

IN the last study we traced some of the movements looking to a union of the colonies. An attempt was made to show that two forces were at work, one tending to emphasize the importance of the colony, and the other the value and necessity of union. In the causes of the American Revolution we shall find many factors which intensified the spirit of union. In fact, the necessity of union in order to resist the plans of the English king and ministry was in itself a great educative force in this movement. The right of local self-government was perhaps the most fundamental issue. The colonies were accustomed to make their own laws, and to live their own life, hence, when the acts of the king and parliament in the years following 1760, seemed to endanger these privileges, resistance appeared and increased till independence was established.

It must be seen clearly, if we are to understand this movement at all, that a *spirit* existed in America different from that in England. The colonists already, as early as 1760, looked at all social, political, and even religious questions out of different eyes than their fellow citizens on the other side of the water. This *spirit* was the product of past forces in their colonial life. In short, it must be noticed that a *new people* was in process of formation. Hence, if any question arose which necessitated the yielding of one view or the other a conflict was sure to

occur. The literature of the period, 1760 to 1776, is very abundant, both in American and in English publications. The debates in parliament furnish the views of English statesmen. The letters that were sent from the English cabinet to governors and other officials in America give us the spirit that animated the English government of the time. The instructions that were sent by the colonial assemblies to their agents in England, the resolutions of the Stamp Act Congress, and of the first and second Continental Congresses, together with the letters and writings of statesmen of the time, preserve a very vivid picture of the views of the Americans. It is felt that in the following extracts the views of England and of the "Tories" are not adequately set forth; the reason, the press of other duties which made the time at my command unequal to the necessities of the occasion.

For those who can invest a few dollars in the very best body of sources which has yet appeared, I wish to speak of Prof Hart's "American History as Told by Contemporaries." The first volume is out, and the second, which brings the history down to 1783, is announced for this month. There are to be four volumes, published by Macmillan & Co., at \$2.00 per volume, or \$7.00 for the set.

The Acts of Navigation and of Trade of 1660, 1664, and 1673 should be noted as factors in the formation of an American spirit hostile to English conceptions.

Act of Navigation, 1660.

For the increase of shipping and encouragement of the navigation of this nation . . . be it enacted, that . . . no goods or commodities, whatsoever, shall be imported into, or exported out of, any lands, islands . . . to his Majesty belonging . . . in Asia, Africa or America, in any other ships or vessels . . . but in such ships or vessels, as do truly . . .

belong to the people of England . . . or are of the build of, and belonging to, any of the said islands . . .

Section 18. And it is further enacted . . . that from and after the first day of April, which shall be in the year of our Lord 1661, no sugars, tobacco, cotton, wool, indigoes, ginger, fusticks or other dyeing wood of the growth . . . of an English plantation in America, Asia or Africa shall be shipped, carried . . . to any land . . . other than to such English plantations as do belong to his Majesty . . . or to the kingdom of England, . . . —*Rot. Parl. 12 C. II., p. 2 nu. 6.*

5 Statutes of the Realm, 246. Cited in Scott Development of Constitutional Liberty, pp. 314-16.

Statute 15 Car. II., c. 7—A. D. 1663.

Section fifth. And in regard [to] his Majesty's plantations beyond the seas [which] are inhabited and peopled by his subjects of this his kingdom of England, for . . . keeping them in a firmer dependence upon it, and rendering them yet more beneficial and advantageous unto it, in the further . . . increase of English shipping and seamen, vent of English wool and other manufactures . . .

Section sixth. Be it enacted etc., that no commodity of the growth, production, or manufacture of Europe, shall be imported into any land, island . . . colony or place . . . to his Majesty belonging . . . in Asia, Africa, or America, . . . but which shall be bona fide, and without fraud, laden and shipped in England, . . . and in English-built shipping, etc. . . —*Cited in Scott, Appendix, pp. 316-17.*

Stat. 25 Car. II., c. 7 —A. D. 1672.

Section fifth. And whereas, by one Act passed in this present Parliament, . . . it is permitted to ship, carry, convey, and transport sugar, tobacco, cotton, wool, indigo, ginger, fustick, and all other dyeing wood . . . from the place of their growth . . . to any other of your Majesty's plantations in those parts, and that without paying of customs for the same, [act here recites that this privilege has been abused by exporting these articles to other countries, therefore] for the prevention thereof . . . be it enacted that . . . if any ship or vessel which by law may trade in any of your Majesty's plantations shall . . . take on board any of the aforesaid commodities, [a bond shall be

given] to bring the same to England . . . and to no other place [except, of course, to another colony.]

QUESTIONS.

1. In what ships must all trade with England be carried on? 2. Where must all sugar, etc., be sent to be sold? 3. Why was the statute of 1763 passed? 4. If the colonies wished to buy any goods of Portugal, where must they first take them? 5. For what object did colonies exist? 6. What does 15 Car. II., c. 7 mean? 7. What effect did the law of 1672 have on colonial trade in sugars, etc.?

The town of Boston, as early as May 24, 1764, in instructions given to its delegates in the General Assembly of Massachusetts, gives us some indication of the spirit which was already abroad in regard to colonial rights. These instructions were drafted by Samuel Adams. The whole series may be found in "American Patriotism."

Our trade has for a long time labored under great discouragements, and it is with the deepest concern that we see such further difficulties coming upon us as will reduce it to the lowest ebb, if not totally obstruct and ruin it. . . .

There is now no room for further delay; we therefore expect that you will use your earliest endeavors in the General Assembly that such methods may be taken as will effectually prevent these proceedings against us. . . .

[We fear] that these unexpected proceedings may be preparatory to new taxations upon us; for if our trade may be taxed, why not our lands? . . . This we apprehend annihilates our charter right to govern and tax ourselves. It strikes at our British privileges, which, as we have never forfeited them, we hold in common with our fellow subjects who are natives of Britain. If taxes are laid upon us in any shape without our having a legal representation where they are laid, are we not reduced from the character of free subjects to the miserable state of tributary slaves?—*American Patriotism*, p. 2 f.

October 19, 1765, the Convention of Delegates from nine of the colonies--the Stamp Act

Congress—formulates the principles of the American people in these words:

The members of this Congress, sincerely devoted, with the warmest sentiments of affection and duty, to his Majesty's person and government, inviolably attached to the present happy establishment of the Protestant succession; . . . having considered as maturely as time will permit, the circumstances of the said colonies, esteem it our indispensable duty to make the following declarations of our humble opinion respecting the most essential rights and liberties of the colonists and of the grievances under which they labor by reason of the several late acts of Parliament:

1. That his Majesty's subjects, in these colonies, owe the same allegiance to the crown of Great Britain, that is owing from his subjects born within the realm; and all due subordination to that august body, the Parliament of Great Britain.

2. That his Majesty's liege subjects, in these colonies, are entitled to all the inherent rights and liberties of his natural-born subjects within the kingdom of Great Britain.

3. That it is inseparably essential to the freedom of a people, and the undoubted right of Englishmen, that no taxes be imposed on them but with their own consent, given personally, or by their representatives.

4. That the people of these colonies are not, and from their local circumstances cannot be, represented in the House of Commons in Great Britain.

5. That the only representatives of the people of these colonies, are persons chosen therein by themselves; and that no taxes ever have been, or can be constitutionally imposed on them, but by their respective legislatures.

6. That all supplies to the crown being the free gifts of the people, it is unreasonable and inconsistent with the principles and spirit of the British constitution, for the people of Great Britain to grant to his Majesty, the property of the colonists.

8. That the late act of Parliament entitled, "An act for granting and applying certain stamp duties, and other duties in the British colonies and plantations in America, etc.," by imposing taxes on the inhabitants of these colonies, and the said act, and several other

acts, by extending the jurisdiction of the courts of admiralty beyond its ancient limits, have a manifest tendency to subvert the rights and liberties of the colonists. . . . —Niles' *"Principles and Acts of the Revolution,"* under New York.

The Resolves of the House of Burgesses of Virginia, passed May 16, 1769, may also be cited to show the constitutional doctrines set forth some four years afterwards by that colony, which later, when a state, became known as the Mother of Presidents.

Resolved, *Nemine contradicente*, That the sole right of imposing taxes on the inhabitants of this, his Majesty's colony and Dominion of Virginia, is now, and hath been, legally and constitutionally vested in the House of Burgesses, lawfully convened, according to the ancient and established practice, with the consent of the council, and of his Majesty, the King of Great Britain, or his Governor for the time being.

Resolved, *Nemine contradicente*, That it is the undoubted privilege of the inhabitants of this colony to petition their Sovereign for redress of grievances; and that it is lawful . . . to procure the concurrence of His Majesty's other colonies, . . . praying the royal interposition in favor of the violated rights of America.

Resolved, *Nemine contradicente*, That all trials for treason, . . . or for any felony or crime whatsoever, committed . . . in said colony . . . ought of right to be had, and conducted in and before His Majesty's courts, held within his said colony, . . . ; and that the seizing . . . and sending such person . . . beyond the sea to be tried, is highly derogatory of the rights of British subjects, . . . —Cited in Channing, *The United States of America*, p. 300

Patrick Henry formulates their doctrines in these stirring sentences, May 29, 1765 :

WHEREAS, The Honorable House of Commons, in England, have of late drawn into question how far the General Assembly of this colony hath power to enact laws for laying of taxes . . . ; for settling and ascertaining the same to all future times, the House of

Burgesses of this present General Assembly have come to the following resolves: -

Resolved, That the first . . . settlers of . . . Virginia, brought with them and transmitted to their posterity, . . . all the privileges and immunities that have at any time been held, enjoyed, and possessed by the people of Great Britain.

Resolved, That his Majesty's liege people of this his ancient colony have enjoyed the right of being thus governed by their own Assembly in the article of taxes and internal police; [the same never yielded up; also the same recognized by king and people of Great Britain.]

Resolved, Therefore, that the General Assembly of this colony, together with his Majesty or his substitutes, have in their representative capacity, the only exclusive right and power to lay taxes and imposts upon the people of this colony; and that every attempt to vest such power in any other person or persons whatsoever than the General Assembly aforesaid, is illegal, unconstitutional, and unjust, and has a manifest tendency to destroy British as well as American liberty.

Resolved, That . . . the inhabitants of this colony, are not bound to yield obedience to any law . . . designed to impose any taxation whatsoever upon them, other than the laws . . . of the General Assembly. . . .

Resolved, That any person who shall . . . assert . . . that any person, . . . other than the General Assembly . . . have any right or power to . . . lay any taxation on the people here, shall be deemed an enemy to his Majesty's colony.—*Cited in Channing, pp. 51-52.*

Examination of Dr. Franklin before the English House of Commons, in February, 1766, relative to the repeal of the American Stamp Act:

Q. What is your name, and place of abode?

A. Franklin, of Philadelphia.

Q. Do the Americans pay any considerable taxes among themselves?

A. Certainly many, and very heavy taxes.

Q. Are not the colonies, from their circumstances, very able to pay the stamp duty?

A. In my opinion there is not gold or silver enough in the colonies to pay the stamp duty for one year.

Q. Do not you think the people of America would submit to pay the stamp duty, if it was moderated?

A. No, never, unless compelled by force of arms.

Q. What was the temper of America towards Great Britain before the year 1763?

A. The best in the world. They submitted willingly to the government of the crown, and paid, in their courts, obedience to acts of parliament. . . . Natives of Britain were always treated with a particular regard; to be an *Old England-man* was, of itself, a character of some respect, and gave a kind of rank among us.

Q. And what is their temper now?

A. O, very much altered.

Q. Did you ever hear the authority of parliament to make laws for America questioned till lately?

A. The authority of parliament was allowed to be valid in all laws, except such as should lay internal taxes. It was never disputed in laying duties to regulate commerce.

Q. And have they not still the same respect for parliament?

A. No, it is greatly lessened.

Q. To what cause is that owing?

A. To a concurrence of causes: the restraints lately laid on their trade, . . . the prohibition of their making paper-money among themselves, and then demanding a new and heavy tax by stamps, taking away, at the same time trials by juries, and refusing to receive and hear their humble petitions.

Q. Was it an opinion in America before 1763, that the parliament had no right to lay taxes and duties there?

A. I never heard any objection to the right of laying duties to regulate commerce, but a right to lay internal taxes was never supposed to be in parliament, as we are not represented there.

Q. Suppose an act of internal regulations connected with a tax, how would they receive it?

A. I think it would be objected to.

Q. Then no regulation with a tax would be submitted to?

A. Their opinion is, that when aids to the crown are wanted, they are to be asked of the various assemblies, according to the old established usage; who will, as they always have done, grant them freely. And that their money ought not to be given away, without their consent, by persons at a distance, unacquainted with their circumstances and abilities. The granting aids to the crown is the only means they have of recommending themselves to their sovereign; and they think it extremely hard and unjust, that a body of men, in which they have no representatives, should make a merit to itself of giving and granting what is not its own, but theirs; and deprive them of a right they esteem of the utmost value and importance, as it is the security of all their other rights.

Q. Are they (the colonists) acquainted with the declaration of rights? And do they know that, by that statute, money is not to be raised on the subject but by consent of parliament?

A. They are very well acquainted with it.

Q. How then can they think they have a right to levy money for the crown? . . .

A. They understand that clause to relate to subjects only within the realm; that no money can be levied on them (i. e. those within the realm) for the crown, but by consent of parliament. The *colonies* are not supposed to be within the realm; they have assemblies of their own, which are their parliaments, and they are, in that respect, in the same situation as Ireland. . . . They think the parliament of Great Britain can not properly give that consent, till it has representatives from America; for the petition of right expressly says, it is to be by *common consent in parliament*; and the people of America have no representatives in parliament to make a part of that common consent.

A. They find in the great charters, and the petition and declaration of rights, that one of the privileges of English subjects is, that they are not to be taxed but by their *common consent*; they have therefore relied upon it, . . . that parliament never would, nor

could, . . . assume a right of taxing them, till it had qualified itself to exercise such a right, by admitting representatives from the people to be taxed, who ought to make a part of the common consent.

Q. What used to be the pride of the Americans?

A. To indulge in the fashions and manufactures of Great Britain.

Q. What is now their pride?

A. To wear their old clothes over again, till they can make new ones.—*Franklin, Works, IV, p. 709 f.*

Perhaps there is no document that gives us a deeper and keener insight into the thought of the times than Franklin's "Causes of American Discontent," written in 1768. The following quotations will indicate the scope of his arguments. It will be noticed that he writes as an Englishman.

From the time that the colonies were first considered as capable of granting aids to the crown, . . . it is said that the constant mode . . . was by requisitions made from the crown, . . . to the several assemblies, . . .

Had this happy method . . . been continued . . . there is no doubt but all the money that could reasonably be expected to be raised from them in any manner might have been obtained without the least . . . breach of the harmony of affections . . . between the two countries.

[They believed that] whatever money was to be raised from the people in the colonies must first be granted by their assemblies, as the money to be raised in Britain is first to be granted by the House of Commons; . . .

[Another act was passed] to oblige the several Assemblies to provide quarters for the soldiers, furnishing them with firing (fuel), bedding, candles, small beer or rum, etc.

[Later, 1767, another person, Townshend] projected the levying more money from America, by new duties on various articles of our own manufacture, as glass, paper, . . . etc., which were . . . for the payment of salaries of governors, judges and other officers

of the crown in America, it being a pretty general opinion here that those officers ought not to depend on the people there for any part of their support.

They say there [in America] as to governors . . . that they are generally strangers to the provinces they are sent to govern. They have no estate . . . or natural relation there to give them an affection for the country; that they come only to make money as fast as they can; are sometimes men of vicious character . . . As to judges, they allege that, being appointed from this country, and holding their commissions not during good behavior, as in Britain, but during pleasure, all the weight of interest or influence would be thrown into one of the scales, . . . If the salaries are also to be paid out of duties raised upon the people without their consent, . . .

They reflected how lightly the interests of all America had been estimated here, when the interests of a few of the inhabitants of Great Britain happened to have the smallest competition with it. . . . The hatters of England have prevailed to obtain an act in their own favor, restraining that manufacture in America. . . .

In the same manner have a few nail-makers, and a still smaller body of steel-makers . . . prevailed totally to forbid by an act of Parliament the erecting of slitting mills, or steel furnaces, in America.—*Franklin's Works; also in "American Patriotism."*

Stephen Hopkins, of Providence, Rhode Island, sets forth the grievances of the colonies in a very elaborate paper. From it a few extracts are made, which bring out some points not found in the other documents cited:

. . . Whether the colonies will ever be admitted to have representatives in Parliament—whether it be consistent with their distant and dependent state; whether, if it were admitted, it would be to their advantage—are questions we will pass by. . . .

The colonies are at so great a distance from England that the members of Parliament can generally have but little knowledge of their business . . . and interests. . .

For what good reason can possibly be given for making a law to cramp the trade and interests of many of

the colonies, and at the same time lessen . . . the consumption of the British manufactures in them? . . . The duty of three pence per gallon on foreign molasses . . . must operate as an absolute prohibition. This will put a total stop to the exportation of lumber, horses, flour and fish to the French and Dutch sugar-colonies. . . . Putting an end to the importation of foreign molasses . . . puts an end to all the costly distilleries in these colonies and to the rum trade with the coast of Africa, and throws it into the hands of the French. . . .

By the same act of parliament the exportation of all kinds of timber and lumber, the most natural products of these colonies is greatly encumbered. . . .

Enlarging the power and jurisdiction of the courts of vice-admiralty in the colonies, is another part of the same act greatly and justly complained of. Courts of admiralty have long been there in most of the colonies whose authority were circumscribed within moderate territorial jurisdiction. . . .

But now this case is quite altered, and a custom-house officer may make a seizure in Georgia of goods ever so legally imported, and carry the trial to Halifax, . . . and thither the owner must follow him to defend his property; . . .

We are not insensible that when liberty is in danger the liberty of complaining is dangerous; yet a man on a wreck was never denied the liberty of roaring as loud as he could, says Dean Swift. And we believe no good reason can be given why the colonies should not modestly and soberly inquire, what right the Parliament of Great Britain have to tax them. *Cited in American Patriotism, p. 4 f.*

THE LETTERS FROM A FARMER.

Among the most famous writings of the time, as well as the most influential, were the Letters of a Farmer. These letters were written by John Dickinson, a lawyer of Pennsylvania, in 1768. The sentiment of the man, and the arguments of the time are indicated in the following extracts, taken from different parts of the twelve letters which he wrote and published in the newspapers of the day:

With a good deal of surprise I have observed, that little notice has been taken of an act of parliament, as injurious in its principle to the liberties of these colonies, as the Stamp-Act was; I mean the act for suspending the legislature of New York. . . . If the British parliament has a legal authority to issue an order, that we shall furnish a single article for the troops here, and to compel obedience to that order, they have the same right to issue an order for us to supply those troops with arms, cloths, and to compel obedience to that order also; in short to lay any burdens they please upon us. What is this but taxing us at a certain sum, and leaving to us only the manner of raising it? How is this made more tolerable than the Stamp-Act? . . .

"It is my opinion [quoted from Wm. Pitt] that this kingdom has no right to lay a tax upon the colonies." . . . "The Americans are the sons, not the bastards of England." "Taxation is no part of the governing and legislative power." . . . The taxes are a voluntary gift and grant of the commons alone. In Legislation the three estates of the realm are alike concerned, but the concurrence of the peers and the crown to a tax is only necessary to close with the form of law. The gift and grant is of the commons alone." . . . "The distinction between legislation and taxation is . . . necessary to liberty." The commons of America represented in the assemblies have ever been in possession of the exercise of *this* their constitutional right, of giving and granting their own money. "They would have been slaves if they had not enjoyed it."

The idea of a virtual representation of America in this house, is the most contemptible idea that ever entered the head of man,—it does not deserve a serious refutation. . . .

For Who Are a Free People? Not those, over whom government is reasonably and equitably exercised, but those who live under a government so constitutionally checked and controlled, that proper provision is made against its being otherwise exercised. The late act is founded on the destruction of this constitutional security. If the parliament have a right to lay a duty of Four Shillings and Eight pence on a hundred weight of glass, or a ream of paper, they have a right to lay

. duty of any other sum on either. . . .; If they have a right to lay a tax of one penny upon us, they have a right to levy a million, for where does their right stop? At any given number of Pence Shillings or Pounds? To attempt to limit their right, after granting it to exist at all, is as contrary to reason as granting it at all is contrary to justice. . . . If they have any right to tax us—then whether *our own money*, shall continue in our own pockets or not, depends no longer on us, but on them, . . . There is nothing which we can call our own, or to use the words of Mr. Locke—"What property have we in that, which another may, by right, take when he pleases, to himself?" These duties, which will inevitably be levied upon us—which are now upon us—are expressly laid for the sole purpose of *taking money*. This is the true definition of "taxes." They are therefore taxes. This money is to be taken from us. We are therefore taxed. Those who are taxed without their own consent expressed by themselves or their representatives are *slaves*.

We are taxed without our own consent, expressed by ourselves or our representatives. We are therefore *Slaves*.

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The three most important articles that our assemblies, or any legislature can provide for, are First—the defence of the society; Secondly—the administration of justice; Thirdly—the support of civil government. Nothing can properly regulate the expense of making provisions for these occasions, but the *necessities* of society; its abilities; the conveniency of the modes of levying money in the *manner* in which the laws have been executed, and the conduct of the officers of governments. All which are circumstances, that cannot possibly be properly known, but by society itself; or if they should be known, will not probably be properly considered but by that society. . . . "We have all the rights requisite for our prosperity." The legal authority of Great Britain may indeed lay hard restrictions upon us; but like the spear of Telephus, it will cure as well as wound. Her unkindness will instruct and compel us, to discover, in our industry or frugality, surprising remedies—if our rights continue unviolated; for as long as the products of our labor,

and the rewards of our care, can properly be called our own, so long it will be worth our while to be industrious and frugal. But if when we plow—sow—reap—gather—and thresh—we find that we—plow—sow—reap—gather—and thresh for others, whose *Pleasure* is to be the *Sole Limitation* how much they shall take, and how much they shall leave, why should we repeat the unprofitable toll? "Horses and oxen are content with that portion of the fruits of their work, which their owners assign them, in order to keep them strong enough to raise successive crops, but even *these beasts* will not submit to draw for their *masters*, until they are *subdued* by *whips and goads*." . . .

"If I am an Enthusiast, in anything, it is in my zeal for the perpetual dependence of these colonies on their mother country—a dependence founded on *mutual benefits*, the continuance of which can be secured only by *mutual affections*."

For my part I regard Great Britain as a Bulwark, happily fixed between these colonies and the powerful nations of Europe. It is therefore our *duty*, and our *interest*, to support the strength of *Great Britain*.—*Life and Writings of J. Dickinson*, pp. 308-403.

Lord Mansfield made a reply to Pitt (Chatham) in regard to the right of the English Parliament to tax the colonies. Something of an idea of his arguments may be seen in the following extracts:

I am extremely sorry that the question has ever become necessary to be agitated, and that there should be a decision upon it. No one in this house will live long enough to see an end put to the mischief which will be the result of the doctrine which has been inculcated; but the arrow is shot, and the wound already given. . . .

. . . There can be no doubt, my Lords, but that the inhabitants of the colonies are as much represented in Parliament, as the greatest part of the people in England are represented; among nine millions of whom there are eight which have no votes in electing members of parliament. Every objection therefore to the dependency of the colonies upon Parliament which arises to it upon the ground of representation goes to

the whole present constitution of Great Britain. and I suppose it is not meant to new model *that* too. . . .

A member of Parliament, chosen for any borough, represents not only the constituents and inhabitants of that particular place, but he represents the inhabitants of every other borough in Great-Britain. He represents the city of London and all the other commons of this land, and the inhabitants of all the colonies and dominions of Great-Britain; and is in duty and conscience, bound to take care of their interests.

I am far from bearing any ill will to the *Americans*; they are a very good people, and I have long known them, I began life with them, and owe much to them, having been much concerned in the plantation causes before the privy council; and, so I become a good deal acquainted with American affairs and people. I dare say their heat will soon be over, when they come to feel a little the consequences of their opposition to the Legislature. Anarchy always cures itself; but the ferment will continue so much the longer, while hot-headed men there, find that there are persons of weight and character to support and justify them here. . . .

"You may abdicate your right over the colonies. Take care my Lords, how you do so, for such an act will be irrevocable. Proceed, then, my Lords, with spirit and firmness, and when you shall have established your authority, it will then be time to show your lenity.

The *Americans*, as I said before, are a very good people, and I wish them exceedingly well; but they are heated and inflamed. The noble Lord who spoke before ended with a prayer. I can not end better than by saying to it, Amen; and in the words of Maurice, prince of Orange, concerning the *Hollanders*, "God bless this industrious, frugal, and well-meaning, but easily deluded people."—*Goodrich, British Eloquence*, p. 148 f.

The following arguments are taken from the protest that was entered in the Lords' journal by some of the members of that house against the proposed repeal of the Stamp Act:

This house has most solemnly asserted and declared, first,—*"That the King's majesty, by and with the advise*

and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, had, hath, and of right ought to have, full power and authority to make laws and statutes of sufficient force and validity to bind the colonies and people of America, subject to the crown of Gt. Britain in all cases whatsoever.' Secondly, 'That tumults and insurrections of the most dangerous nature have been raised and carried on in several of the North-American colonies, in open defiance of the power and dignity of his Majesty's Government, and in manifest violation of the laws and legislative authority of this Kingdom.' Thirdly, 'That the said tumults and insurrections have been encouraged and inflamed, by sundry votes and resolutions passed in several of the assemblies of the said provinces, derogatory to the honour of his Majesty's Government, and destructive of the legal and constitutional dependency of said colonies, on the Imperial Crown and Parliament of Great-Britain.'

"2dly, Because the laws, which this bill now proposes to repeal, was passed in the other house with very little opposition and in this without one dissentient voice, during the last session of Parliament, which we presume, if it had been wholly, and fundamentally wrong, could not possibly have happened,"

4thly, Because it appears to us, that a most essential branch of that authority, the power of taxation, cannot be properly, equitably, or impartially exercised, if it does not extend itself to all the Members of the State, in proportion to their respective abilities, but suffers a part to be exempt from a due share of those burdens which the public exigencies require to be imposed upon the whole; a partiality, which is directly repugnant to the trust reposed by the people in every legislature, and destructive of that confidence on which all Government is founded.

6thly, Because not only the right but the expediency and necessity of the supreme Legislature's exerting its authority to lay a general tax on our American colonies, whenever the wants of the public make it fitting and reasonable that all the provinces should contribute, in a proper proportion, to the defence of the whole, appear to us un- . . .

7thly, Because the reasons assigned in the public resolutions of the provincial Assemblies, in the North American colonies, for their disobeying the Stamp-Act, viz., "That they are not represented in the parliament of Gt.-Britain," extends to all other laws of what nature soever, which that Parliament has enacted, or shall enact, to bind them in times to come, and must (if admitted) let them absolutely free from any obedience to the power of the British Legislature. . . .

8thly, Because the appearance of weakness and timidity in the Government and Parliament of this kingdom, which a concession of this nature may too probably carry with it, has a manifest tendency to draw on farther insults, and, by lessening the respect of his Majesty's subjects to the dignity of his crown, and authority of his laws, throw the whole British empire into a miserable state of confusion and anarchy, with which it seems, by many symptoms, to be dangerously threatened.—*Parliamentary Debates, 1761-1768, p. 368 f.*

From the Declaration of Rights of the Continental Congress at Philadelphia, in 1774:

Whereupon the deputies so appointed being now assembled, in a full and free representation of these colonies, taking into their most serious consideration, the best means of attaining the ends aforesaid, do, in the first place, as Englishmen, their ancestors, in like cases have usually done, for effecting and vindicating their rights and liberties, *Declare*,—

That the inhabitants of the English colonies in North America, by the immutable laws of nature, the principles of the English constitution, and the several charters or compacts, have the following *Rights*:—

Resolved, N. C. D. 1. That they are entitled to life, liberty, and property, and that they have never ceded to any sovereign power whatever, a right to dispose of either without their consent.

Resolved, N. C. D. 2. That our ancestors, who first settled these colonies, were at the time of their emigration from the mother country, entitled to all the rights, liberties, and immunities, of full and natural-born subjects, within the realm of England.

Resolved, N. C. D. 3. That by such emigration, they by no means forfeited, surrendered, or lost, any of those rights, but that they were, and their descendants now

are entitled to the exercise and enjoyment of all such of them, as their local and other circumstances enable them to exercise and enjoy.

Resolved, 4. That the foundation of English liberty, and of all free government, is a right in the people to participate in their legislative council; and as the English colonists are not represented, and from their local and other circumstances, cannot properly be, in the British Parliament, they are entitled to a free and exclusive power of legislation in their several provincial legislatures, where their right of representation can alone be preserved, in all cases of taxation and internal polity, subject only to the negative of their sovereign, in such manner as has been heretofore used and accustomed.—*Preston, Documents Illustrative of American History.*

The hiring of the Hessians and other German troops brought on a long debate in the Commons, from which the following extracts are made:

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Mr. Fox. I have always said that the war carried on against the Americans is unjust, that it is not practicable. I say, that the means made use of are by no means such as will obtain the end. I shall confine myself singly to this ground, and shew this bill, like every other measure, proves the want of policy, the folly and madness of the present set of ministers. I was in great hopes, that they had seen their error, and had given over their endeavor to coerce, and to carry on war against America, by means of Acts of Parliament. In order to induce Americans to submit to your legislature, you pass laws against them, cruel and tyrannical in the extreme. If they complain of one law, your answer to their complaint is to pass another more rigorous and severe than the former; but they are in rebellion, you say; if they are, treat them as rebels are wont to be treated.

I have ever understood it as a first principle, that in rebellion you punish the individuals, but spare the country; in a war against the enemy, you spare individuals, and lay waste the country.

This last has been invariably your conduct against America. I suggested this to you when the Boston port bill passed. I advised you to find out the offend-

ing persons and to punish them; but what did you do instead of this? You laid the whole town of Boston under terrible contribution, punishing the innocent with the guilty. You answer, that you could not come at the guilty. This very answer shews how unfit, and how unable you are, to govern America.

MR. DEMPSTER said, he was sorry to see such a disposition in administration to stifle and squash all enquiry. . . . He then turned, and took a short view of the Quebec bill, and concluded, by solemnly averring, that in his opinion, no Turkish emperor ever sent a more arbitrary and oppressive mandate, by a favorite bashaw, to a distant province, than that bill was with the instructions to the governor, which accompanied it.

MR. D. HARTLEY: In the course of our debates upon American measures, I frequently hear the terms of rebellion and rebels made use of, which I shall never adopt; not only because I would avoid every term of acrimony which might increase the ill-blood between us and our fellow-subjects in America, but likewise thinking as I do, that the ministry of this country have been in every stage the aggressors: I never will, as a Whig of revolutionary principles, confound terms so fundamentally the reverse to each other, as defensive resistance in the support of constitutional rights, with unprovoked and active treason. The colonies have been condemned unheard. I wish to enter my protest once for all, that I shall always think that our American fellow-subjects have been driven to resistance in their own defence, and in support of those very claims which we ourselves have successfully taken up arms in former times, to secure us from the violence and tyrannical pretensions of the House of Stuart. These rights are the giving and granting freely our own property, and the security of charters.

HONORABLE JAMES LETTRELL: The Americans have never sought nor desire to be independent of England. They thought ministry misinformed, therefore they requested to be heard, and however artfully they may have been deprived of that privilege before this House, I do respect it as the grand judicial inquest of the nation, which must be too high . . . to condemn an individual without a hearing, much less

three millions of subjects. Yet 'tis said that Parliament declared this war against America, let who will have done it, I have seen enough of that country to think it my duty to endeavor to express, how much I am adverse to so iniquitous, so impolitic a persecution. . . . Sir, I comprehend that ministry now apply to Parliament for seventeen thousand Germans to send to America, Good God, for what end? To enslave a hundred and fifty thousand of their own countrymen, many of whom fled from tyrants to seek our protection.

MR. ALDERMAN BULL: I cannot, Sir, . . . forbear to express my astonishment . . . that . . . so many gentlemen should have been prevailed upon . . . to approve and sanctify those cruel and arbitrary measures . . . by an unfeeling, an unrelenting administration, who have dared to abuse the throne by their wicked and sanguinary councils, and whose whole conduct has proved them entirely destitute of every principle of justice, humanity, and the religion of their country. . . . Sir, is it certain, is it probable that the exertions of ministerial tyranny and revenge will be much longer permitted? . . . Or can it be expected that the people of this country, reduced by thousands to beggary and want, will remain idle spectators till the sword is at their breasts, or dragoons at their doors? . . .

The war which you are now waging is an unjust one, it is founded in oppression, and its end will be distress and disgrace, . . . I shall not now trouble the House further, than to declare my abhorrence of all the measures which have been adopted against America; measures equally inimical to the principles of commerce, to the spirit of the constitution, and to the honor, to the faith, and the true dignity of the British nation. —*Parliamentary Debates, 1775-'76, pp. 20-106.*

QUESTIONS.

1. In what ways were the Navigation acts connected with the American Revolution? 2. What industries were encouraged in America? 3. What ones discouraged? 4. Why do the people of Boston say their trade has been bad for a long time, in 1764? 5. What reasons are given in 1764 against taxation by British parliament? 6. What reasons assigned for opposing? 7. Would they have been willing to be taxed, if they had had representatives in Parliament? 8. What were

courts of Admiralty? 9. How were their powers extended? 10. Were there any new reasons given in 1765 that you do not find in 1764? 11. Why do the Virginians in 1769 speak of right of petition? 12. What new reasons of discontent mentioned in 1769? 13. Compare arguments of P. Henry with those of S. Adams. 14. Why does Franklin object to the Stamp Act? 15. How did the Americans feel towards the English as set forth by Franklin? 16. Did he distinguish between internal and external taxation? 17. Did the colonies in later years, 1768-'76? 18. What privileges did he claim for the colonies? 19. What foundation for these claims? 20. What force in the arguments of Mr. Pownall? 21. Would we reason now much in the same way? 22. Is Franklin's answer satisfactory? 23. Summarize the arguments of Franklin in Causes of American Discontent. 24. How does Stephen Hopkins' argument differ from the others? 25. What new points does he suggest? 26. Are the Farmer's letters convincing? 27. Is it true that any authority which may be abused ought not to be granted? 28. What are the arguments of Mansfield in regard to right of Parliament to tax? 29. Does present doctrine follow his view or that of Dickinson and Chatham? 30. Were all the American arguments based on idea of nationality or state sovereignty? 31. How did the colonists regard the English Constitution, as written or unwritten? 32. How did they differ in regard to meaning of representation? 33. Did the Lords' protest set forth any good grounds for their position? 34. Compare ideas of Stamp Act Congress with ideas and arguments of Congress of 1774. 35. What points does John Rutledge emphasize? 36. Why were not the colonies virtually represented when they had such friends in Parliament as are cited from Parliamentary Debates? 37. Was there danger of over-taxation with such men there? 38. Would not agitation alone in time have secured redress? 39. How far was the war caused by improper men in English cabinet? 40. Judged by the Declaration of Independence, who caused the war? 41. Can you find proof that all the charges contained in the Declaration of Independence were well founded?



FORMATION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

Articles of Confederation inadequate. Attempts to amend them, 1780, 1783, 1786, all fail. Meeting at Mt. Vernon, 1785; Annapolis Convention, 1786; Calling of Constitutional Convention, 1787. Convention to meet May 14; organizes May 25; adjourns September 17. Leaders in Convention: Washington, President; Madison, Wilson, Randolph, Patterson, Ellsworth, Sherman, King, Rutledge, Mason, and the Pinckneys. Ratified by ten States by July, 1788. Washington inaugurated, April 30, 1789.

CHAPTER IV

STEPS IN THE FORMATION OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

IN the first place it must be noticed that our constitution is a growth and not a creation of any one moment in our history. Its elements may be traced back to the days when our Teutonic ancestors were yet in the swamps and forests of Germany. On American soil several stages in its growth may be marked. In the New England confederacy, in the Albany plan of union of 1754, in the various plans proposed about 1774 and 1775, in the Articles of Confederation of 1781, we see successive movements, all essential parts of the ultimate result obtained in the convention of 1787. Along another line of development we may also trace the growth of the forces which became factors in this result. The charters granted by the crown to Virginia, to Massachusetts, to Rhode Island, to Connecticut, and to other colonies, the charters granted by the proprietors to Maryland, to Pennsylvania, etc., furnished many elements for the final structure. The principles of the common law, and the English constitution itself directly, were not without great influence. Anything like a complete study, therefore, of the genesis of our constitution would necessitate an elaborate collection of the material contained in the foregoing suggestions. Our aim will be rather to trace the causes which were the immediate occasion for the constitutional convention, and to note the more impor-

tant steps in the years which Mr. Fiske has so well called "The Critical Period." Also in studying the formation of the constitution it must ever be kept in mind that there were still in existence the two forces we have noticed at work in the colonial period, the one tending to union, and the other to localism. They operated at this time both as factors in determining whether there should be a new constitution at all, and also in influencing the nature of the union that should be formed. The question of the location of sovereignty was at issue. Did it rest in the state, or in the union? Should it be placed in the people as a whole, or should it be left in the hands of the local powers? The compromises in the constitution must be traced to their causes if we are to have a full understanding of the forces which were at work at the time. Sectionalism may be seen in many incidents occurring during these years, and especially in the debates in the constitutional and ratifying conventions. Slavery as a question of a distracting import crops out in many places. It was not yet at all an overshadowing issue, but it made itself felt. Class interests and class feelings are not absent. Creditor and debtor, city and country, coast region and interior, are all factors in determining the final form of the struggle and its result.

In connection with the quotations from the documentary records, extracts have been made from the writings of a few of the great statesmen of the time. It was the intention to have presented the views of a greater number of the statesmen of that day, but the usual plea has to be made that it takes a great amount of time to go through hundreds of pages of matter to find out the quotable material, and the time was not at hand. It is believed, however, that the extracts made are directly to the point, and

will present the ideas of the day very sharply and vividly.

Thomas Paine, in 1780, in "Public Good," an article arguing that the western territory should belong to the United States collectively, instead of to Virginia and other states individually, concludes with these remarkable words:

I shall in this place take the opportunity of renewing a hint which I formerly threw out in the Pamphlet "Common Sense," and which the States will, sooner or later, see the convenience, if not the necessity, of adopting; which is, that of electing a continental convention, for the purpose of forming a continental constitution, describing and defining the powers and authority of Congress — *Paine's Writings (Conway)*, vol. II, p. 66.

Washington's letters at least as early as 1780 show that he saw the necessity of a stronger bond of union among the states than the one which existed. Among other letters we find one to Hamilton, 4 March, 1783.

The States cannot surely be so devoid of common sense, common honesty, and common policy, as to refuse their aid on a full, clear, and candid representation of facts from Congress. . . . To me who know nothing of the business before Congress, nor of the arcana, it appears that such a measure would tend to promote the public weal; for it is clearly my opinion, unless Congress have powers competent to all general purposes, that the distresses we have encountered, the expense we have occurred, and the blood we have spilt, will avail us nothing. *Washington, Works*, vol. VIII, p. 591.

On March 31, 1783, he writes again to Hamilton in these words:

My wish to see the union of these States established upon liberal and permanent principles, and inclination to contribute my mite in pointing out the defects of the present constitution, are equally great. . . . No man in the United States is or can be more deeply impressed with a necessity of a reform in our present

confederation than myself. No man perhaps has felt the bad effects of it more sensibly; for to the defects thereof, and want of power in Congress, may justly be ascribed the prolongation of the war, . . .—*Washington, Works, vol. VIII, p. 410.*

To Lafayette he writes:

To avert these evils, to form a new constitution . . . is a duty incumbent on every man . . .

In Washington's Circular Letter to the Governors, 8 June, 1783, he sets forth his hopes and his fears again in eloquent words:

Such is our situation, and such are our prospects; but, notwithstanding . . . happiness is ours, if we have a disposition to seize the occasion and make it our own; yet it appears to me there is an option still left to the United States of America, that . . . it depends upon their conduct, whether they will be respectable and prosperous, or contemptible and miserable, as a nation. This is the time of their political probation; this is the moment when the eyes of the whole world are turned upon them; this is the moment to establish or ruin their national character forever; this is the favorable moment to give such a tone to our federal government as will enable it to answer the ends of its institution, or this may be the ill-fated moment for relaxing the powers of the Union, annihilating the cement of the confederation, and exposing us to become the sport of European politics, which may play one State against another . . . For, according to the system of policy the States shall adopt at this moment, they will stand or fall; and by their confirmation or lapse it is yet to be decided whether the revolution must ultimately be considered a blessing or a curse: a blessing or a curse, not to the present age alone, for with our fate will the destiny of unborn millions be involved, . . .

There are four things which . . . are essential . . . to the existence of the United States, as an independent power.

First. An indissoluble union of the States under one federal head.

Second. A sacred regard to public justice.

Third. The adoption of a proper peace establishment; and,

Fourth. The prevalence of that pacific and friendly disposition among the people of the United States which will induce them to forget their local prejudices and policies; . . .—*Washington, Works, vol. VIII, p. 441-'43; also in "Old South Leaflets."*

The following additional extracts from Washington's letters show his opinions in regard to the conditions of the times, and the necessity for a stronger government.

Notwithstanding the jealous and contracted temper, which seems to prevail in some of the States, yet I cannot but hope and believe, that the good sense of the people will ultimately get the better of their prejudices; and that order and sound policy, though they do not come so often as one would wish, will be produced from the present unsettled and deranged state of public affairs. Indeed, I am happy to observe that the political disposition is actually ameliorating every day. Several of the States have manifested an inclination to invest Congress with more ample powers. . . .—*To Jonathan Trumbull, Jr., Jan. 5, 1784.*

That the prospect before us is . . . fair, none can deny. [But] the disinclination of the individual States to yield competent powers to Congress for the federal government, their unreasonable jealousy of that body and of one another, and the disposition, which seems to pervade each, of being all-wise and all-powerful within itself, will, if there is not a change in the system, be our downfall as a nation, . . . and I think we have opposed Great Britain, and have arrived at the present state of peace and independency, to very little purpose, if we cannot conquer our own prejudices. . . . But I have many [fears] and powerful ones indeed, which predict the worst consequences, from a half-starved, limping government, that appears to be always moving upon crutches, and tottering at every step. . . . My political creed, therefore, is, to be wise in the choice of delegates, . . . give them competent powers for all federal purposes, support them in the due exercise thereof, . . .—*To Benjamin Harrison, 18 January, 1784.*

We are either a united people under one head and for federal purposes, or we are thirteen independent sovereignties, eternally counteracting each other. If the former, whatever such a majority of the States, as the constitution points out, conceives to be for the benefit of the whole, should . . . be submitted to by the minority. . . . I confess to you candidly, that I can foresee no evil greater than disunion: . . . As you have asked the question, I answer, I do not know that we can enter upon a war of imposts with Great Britain, or any other foreign power; but we are certain, that this war has been waged against us by the former; professedly upon a belief that we never could unite in opposition to it; and I believe there is no way of putting an end to [it] . . . but to convince them of the contrary. . . .

To sum up the whole, I foresee . . . the many advantages which will arise from giving powers of this kind to Congress . . . without any evil save that which may proceed from inattention, or want of wisdom in the formation of the act; while without them, we stand in a ridiculous view in the eyes of the nations of the world, with whom we are attempting to enter into commercial treaties, without the means of carrying them into effect; who must see and feel that the Union or the States individually are sovereigns, as best suits their purposes; in a word that we are one nation to-day and thirteen to-morrow.—*To James McHenry, 22 August, 1785.*

The war . . . has terminated most advantageously for America, and a fair field is presented to our view; but I confess to you freely, dear Sir, that I do not think we possess wisdom or justice enough to cultivate it properly. Illiberality, jealousy, and local policy mix too much in all our public councils for the good government of the Union. In a word, the confederation appears to me to be little more than a shadow without substance, and Congress a nugatory body, . . . —*To James Warren, 7 October, 1785*

My sentiments with respect to the federal government are well known. Publicly and privately have they been communicated without reserve; but my opinion is, that there is more wickedness than ignorance in the conduct of the States, or, in other words, in the conduct of those who have too much influence in the government of

them; and until the curtain is withdrawn, and the private views and selfish principles, upon which these men act, are exposed to public notice, I have little hope of amendment without another convention.—*To Henry Lee, 5 April, 1786.*

I coincide perfectly with you . . . that there are errors in our national government which call for correction; . . . but I shall find myself happily mistaken if the remedies are at hand. We are certainly in a delicate situation; but my fear is that the people are not yet sufficiently misled to retract from error. To be plainer, I think there is more wickedness than ignorance mixed in our councils. . . . That it is necessary to revise and amend the articles of confederation, I entertain no doubt; but what may be the consequences of such an attempt is doubtful. . . .

I think often of our situation, and view it with concern. From the high ground we stood upon, from the plain path which invited our footsteps, to be so fallen, so lost, is really mortifying. But virtue, I fear, has in a great degree taken its departure from our land, and the want of a disposition to do justice is the source of the national embarrassments; . . .—*To John Jay, 13 May, 1786.*

Is it not among the most unaccountable things in nature, that the representatives of a great country should generally be so thin as not to be able to execute the functions of government. To what is this to be ascribed? . . . Be the causes what they may, it is shameful and disgusting. In a word, it hurts us. Our character as a nation is dwindling; and what it must come to, . . . our enemies have foretold; for in truth we seem either not capable, or not willing to take care of ourselves. . . .

It was impolitic and unfortunate if not unjust in these States to pass laws, which by fair construction might be considered as infractions of the treaty of peace. It is good policy at all times to place one's adversary in the wrong. Had we observed good faith, and the western posts had then been withheld from us by Great Britain, we might have appealed to God and man for justice; . . . But now we cannot do this . . .—*To William Grayson, 26 July, 1786.*

The greater part of the Union seems to be convinced of the necessity of federal measures, and of investing

Congress with the power of regulating the commerce of the whole.—*To de la Luzerne, 1 August, 1786.*

What astonishing changes a few years are capable of producing. I am told that even respectable characters speak of a monarchical form of government without horror. From thinking proceeds speaking; thence to acting is often but a single step. But how irrevocable and tremendous! What a triumph for our enemies to verify their predictions! What a triumph for the advocates of despotism to find that we are incapable of governing ourselves, and that systems founded on the basis of equal liberty are merely ideal and fallacious!—*To John Jay, 1 August, 1786.*

You talk, my good Sir, of employing influence to appease the present tumults in Massachusetts. I know not where that influence is to be found, or, if attainable, that it would be a proper remedy for the disorders. *Influence is not government.* Let us have a government by which our lives, liberties, and properties will be secured, or let us know the worst at once.—*To Henry Lee, in Congress, 31 October, 1786*

Fain would I hope, that the great and most important of all subjects, the *federal government*, may be considered with that calm and deliberate attention, which the magnitude of it so critically and loudly calls for. Let prejudices, unreasonable jealousies, and local interests yield to reason and liberality. . . .

[In] a letter . . . from General Knox, . . . among other things he says, "Their creeds, that the property of the United States has been protected from the confiscation of Britain by the joint exertions of *all*, and therefore ought to be the *common property of all*," . . . They are determined to annihilate all debts, public and private, and have agrarian laws, . . .—*To James Madison, 5 November, 1786.*

By a late act, it seems very desirous of a general convention to revise and amend the federal constitution. *Apropos:* what prevented the eastern States from attending the September meeting at Annapolis? Of all the States in the Union it should seem, that a measure of this sort, distracted as they were with internal commotions and experiencing the want of energy in the government, would have been most pleasing to them.—*To Henry Knox, 26 December, 1786*

I am indirectly and delicately pressed to attend this

convention [Philadelphia, 1787]. Several reasons are opposed to it in my mind . . . [Partly personal.] A thought has lately run through my mind, however, which is accompanied with embarrassment. It is whether my non-attendance in the convention will not be considered as a dereliction of republicanism. [Some friends advised him to attend, others the contrary. It was about three months after appointment before he decided to accept.]—*To Henry Knox, 8 March, 1787.*

Every attempt to amend the constitution at this time is in my opinion idle and vain. If there are characters, who prefer disunion, or separate confederacies, to the general government, which is offered to them, their opposition may, for aught I know, proceed from principle; but, as nothing, according to my conception of the matter, is more to be deprecated than a disunion or these distinct confederations, as far as my voice can go it shall be offered in favor of the latter.—*To David Stuart, 30 November, 1787.*

Should it [the constitution] be adopted, and I think it will be, America will lift up her head again, and in a few years become respectable among the nations. It is a flattering . . . reflection that our rising republics have the good wishes of all the philosophers, patriots, and virtuous men in all nations; and that they look upon them as a kind of asylum for mankind. God grant that we may not disappoint their honest expectations by our folly or perverseness.—*To the Marquis de Chastellux, 25 April, 1788.*

The above extracts are all taken from Spark's Writings of Washington, vol. IX, pp. 5, 12-13, 121-24, 140, 156, 166, 178-80, 183, 189, 204-206, 226, 238, 284, 297.

Part of the extracts from Jefferson's writings are taken from the edition of his work of 1830, and part from the new edition by Ford, published in 1895.

I remain in hopes of great and good effects from the decisions of the Assembly [Constitutional Convention] over which you are presiding. To make our States one as to all foreign concerns, preserve them several as to all merely domestic, to give to the federal head some

peaceable mode of enforcing its just authority, to organize that head into legislative, executive, and judiciary departments, are great desiderata in our federal constitution.—*Jefferson to Washington, Works of Jefferson* (ed. 1830), vol. II, p. 222.

I find by the public papers that your Commercial Convention failed in point of representation. If it should produce a full meeting in May and a broader reformation, it will still be well. To make us one nation as to foreign concerns, and keep us distinct in Domestic ones, gives the outline of the proper division of power between the general and particular governments. But to enable the Federal head to exercise the power given it, to best advantage, it should be organized, as the particular ones are, into Legislative, Executive, and Judiciary. The 1st and last are already separated. The 2d should also be. When last with Congress I often proposed to members to do this by making of the Committee of the states, an Executive committee during the recess of Congress and during its sessions to appoint a Committee to receive and dispatch all executive business, so that Congress itself should meddle only with what should be legislative.—*Jefferson to Madison, Dec. 16, 1788, Works, vol. IV, p. 331.*

The negative proposed to be given them [Congress] on all the acts of the several legislatures is now for the first time suggested to my mind. *Prima facie* I do not like it. It fails in the essential character that the hole and the patch should be commensurate. But this proposes to mend a small hole by covering the whole garment. . . . Would not an appeal from the State Judicatures to a federal court in all cases where the act of Confederation controlled the question, be as effectual a remedy, and exactly commensurate to the defect? . . . An appeal to a federal court sets all to rights. It will be said that this court may encroach on the jurisdiction of the state courts. It may. But there will be a power, to-wit, Congress, to watch and restrain them. But place the same authority in Congress itself, and there will be no power above them to perform the same office. . . .—*Jefferson to Madison, June 20, 1787, Works, vol. IV, pp. 390-91*

Our new constitution is powerfully attacked in the newspapers. The objections are that it would be to form the 13 states into one: that proposing to melt all

down into one general government they have fenced the people by no declaration of rights, they have not renounced the power of keeping a standing army, they have not secured the liberty of the press, they have reserved the power of abolishing trial by jury in civil cases, . . . they have abandoned rotation in office; and particularly their president may be re-elected from 4 years to 4 years for life, so as to render him a king for life like a king of Poland, and have not given him either the check or aid of a council. . . . You will see that these objections are serious, and some of them not without foundation.—*To William Carmichael, Paris, Dec. 15, 1787, Jefferson's Works (1897 ed.), vol. IV, p. 470.*

. . . I like much the general idea of framing a government which should go on of itself peacefully, without needing continual recurrence to the state legislatures. I like the organization of the government into Legislative, Judiciary and Executive. I like the power given the Legislature to levy taxes, . . . I am captivated by the compromise of the opposite claims of the great and little states, of the latter to equal and the former to proportional influence. I am much pleased too with the substitution of the method of voting by persons, instead of voting by states; and I like the negative given to the Executive . . . There are other good things of less moment. I will now add what I do not like. First the omission of a bill of rights providing clearly and without the aid of sophisms for freedom of religion, freedom of the press, protection against standing armies, restriction against monopolies, the eternal and unremitting force of the habeas corpus laws, and trials by jury in all matters of fact triable by the laws of the land and not by the law of nations. . . . Let me add that a bill of rights is what the people are entitled to against every government on earth, general or particular, and just what no just government should refuse, or rest on inferences. The second feature I dislike, . . . is the abandonment in every instance of the necessity of rotation in office, and most particularly in the case of the President. [Here a prediction follows which has not been fulfilled.] . . . I do not pretend to decide what would be the best method of procuring the establishment of the manifold good things in this constitution, and of getting rid of the bad. . . . I own I am not

a friend to a very energetic government. It is always oppressive. The late rebellion in Massachusetts has given more alarm than I think it should have done. . . . After all, it is my principle that the will of the majority should always prevail. If they approve the proposed convention in all its parts, I shall concur in it cheerfully, in hopes that they will amend it whenever they shall find it work wrong. I think our governments will remain virtuous for many centuries; as long as they are chiefly agricultural; and this will be as long as there shall be vacant lands in any part of America. When they get piled upon one another in large cities, as in Europe, they will become corrupt as in Europe. . . .—*To James Madison, Paris, Dec. 20, 1787, Ib., 474-76.*

PUBLIC ACTION.

The powers of the delegates to the first Continental Congress of 1774 will indicate the purpose for which these delegates came together. The instructions to the Virginia and Maryland delegates illustrate the spirit of all.

VIRGINIA: To consider of the most proper and effectual manner of so operating on the Commercial convention of the Colonies with the Mother country, as to procure redress for the much-injured Province of Massachusetts Bay, to secure British America from the ravage and ruin of arbitrary taxes, and speedily to procure the return of that harmony and union so beneficial to the whole Empire, and so ardently desired by all British America.

MARYLAND: To attend a General Congress to assist one general plan of conduct operating on the Commercial connection of the Colonies with the mother country, for the relief of Boston and the preservation of American Liberty.

The Congress of 1774 passed the following resolutions in regard to the vote of the various delegations present:

Resolved, That, in determining questions in this Congress, each colony or province shall have one vote; the Congress not being possessed of, or at present able to

procure, proper materials for ascertaining the importance of each colony.—*Journal of Congress, vol. I, p. 7.*

On October 20, 1774, this Congress passed the Non-importation agreement. It has sometimes been called the beginning of the government of the United States.

[Name grievances, then say] To obtain redress of these grievances, . . . we are of opinion, that a non-importation, non-consumption, and non-exportation agreement, faithfully adhered to, will prove the most speedy, effectual, and peaceable measure: [terms follow] . . .

Sec. 11. That a committee be chosen in every county, city and town by those who are qualified to vote for representatives in the legislature whose business it shall be attentively to observe the conduct of all persons touching this association; and when it shall be made to appear . . . that any person . . . has violated this association that [his name be] published in the gazette; to the end that all such foes to the rights of British-America may be publicly known, and universally contemned as the enemies of American liberty; and thenceforth we respectively will break off all dealings with him or her.

Sec. 12. That the committee of correspondence, in the respective colonies, do frequently inspect the entries of their custom-houses, and inform each other, . . . of the true state thereof, . . .

Sec. 14. And we do further agree and resolve, that we will have no trade . . . or dealings . . . with any colony or province in North America, which shall not accede to or which hereafter shall violate this association, but will hold them as unworthy of the rights of freemen, and as inimical to the liberties of their country.

And we do solemnly bind ourselves and our constituents, . . . to adhere to this association, until [redress of grievances obtained].—*Journal of Congress, vol. I, pp. 23-25.*

The Congress of 1775 met for the same purpose, but soon had to begin to act as a revolutionary body, and carried on the government

and the war till 1781, when the articles of confederation were adopted.

ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION.

Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union between the states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay . . .

Article I. The style of this Confederacy shall be "The United States of America."

Article II. Each State retains its sovereignty, freedom and independence, and every Power, Jurisdiction and right which is not . . . expressly delegated. . .

Article III. The said States hereby severally enter into a firm league of friendship with each other, . . . binding themselves to assist each other against all force offered to, or made upon them, . . .

Even before the Articles of Confederation were ratified by the last state, Maryland, a proposal had been made in Congress, on February 3, 1781, to submit the following amendment to the states for their action. It failed of adoption:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several States, . . . that they vest a power in Congress to levy, for the use of the United States, a duty of five per cent *ad valorem*, . . . at the time and place of importation, upon all goods, . . . of foreign growth or manufacture, . . .

That the moneys arising from said duties be appropriated to the discharge of the principal and interest of the debts already contracted . . . —*Elliot's Debates*, vol. I, p. 92.

On April 18, 1783, a second attempt to secure an amendment was made, which also failed of final adoption.

Resolved, by nine States, that it be recommended to the several States as indispensably necessary to the restoration of public credit, . . . to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with the power to levy, for the use of the United States, the following duties upon goods imported into the said States from

any foreign port, &c. . . . [List of articles.]—
Elliot's Debates, vol. I, p. 93.

On the 30th of April, 1784, Congress recommended for a third time an amendment to the articles, which was finally defeated by the action of New York, in the winter of 1786-87. The reasons for the proposed amendment read in part as follows, and are very important as showing one of the direct causes that led to the calling of the Constitutional Convention:

The trust reposed in Congress renders it their duty to be attentive to the conduct of foreign nations, and to prevent or restrain, . . . all such proceedings as might prove injurious to the United States. The situation of Commerce at this time claims the attention of the several states, and few objects of greater importance can present themselves to their notice . . . [reasons given].

Already has Great Britain adopted regulations destructive of our commerce with her West-India island. There was reason to expect that measures so unequal and so little calculated to promote mercantile intercourse, would not be persevered in by an enlightened nation. . . . It would be the duty of Congress, as it is their wish, to meet the attempts of Great-Britain with similar restrictions on her commerce; but their powers on this head are not explicit, and the propositions made by the legislatures of the several states render it necessary to take the general sense of the nation on this subject.

Unless the United States in Congress assembled, shall be vested with powers competent to the protection of commerce, they can never command reciprocal advantages in trade; and without these, our foreign commerce must decline, and eventually be annihilated. Hence it is necessary that . . . foreign commerce, not founded on principles of equality, may be restrained, . . . to secure such terms they have

Resolved, That it be . . . recommended to the legislatures of the several states, to vest the United States, in Congress assembled, for the term of fifteen years, with power to prohibit any goods . . . from *being imported* into or exported from any of the

states, in vessels belonging to . . . the subjects of any foreign power with whom these states shall not have formed treaties of commerce.

Resolved, That it be . . . recommended, . . . to vest the United States, in Congress assembled, for the term of 15 years, with the power of prohibiting the subjects of any foreign state . . . unless authorized by treaty, from importing into the United States any goods . . . which are not the product . . . of the dominions of the sovereign whose subjects they are.

After the failure of these various attempts to amend the Articles of Confederation, the friends of greater power in the Union turned to the calling of a convention for taking the question into consideration. Virginia was the first state to act, and on January 21, 1786, its legislature passed the following resolution:

Resolved, that Edmund Randolph, James Madison, . . . be appointed commissioners, who or any five of whom, shall meet such commissioners as may be appointed by other States in the Union, . . . to take into consideration the trade of the United States, to examine the relative situation of the trade of the said States, . . . and to report to the several States such an act relative to this great object as when unanimously ratified by them, will enable the United States in Congress assembled, to provide for the same . . . [Notice of action sent to other states.]—*Elliot's Debates*, vol. I, p. 115.

Commissioners from four other states, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware, met with those from Virginia, and sent out a letter to the other states and to Congress asking that a convention be held on the second Monday of the following May. The interesting paragraphs in their resolutions for us read as follows:

To the Honorable the Legislatures of Virginia, etc., . . . the Commissioners from the said States, . . . humbly beg leave to report: . . . That the State of

New Jersey had enlarged the object of their appointment, empowering their commissioners, "to consider how far an uniform system in their commercial regulations, and other important matters, might be necessary to the common interest and permanent harmony of the several States": . . . [Your commissioners believe this] was an improvement on the original plan, and will deserve to be incorporated into that of a future Convention, . . .

Under this impression, your Commissioners, . . . beg leave to suggest their unanimous conviction that [Commissioners should meet] at Philadelphia on the second Monday in May next, to take into consideration the situation of the United States; to devise such further provisions as shall appear to them necessary to render the constitution of the Federal Government adequate to the exigencies of the Union; and to report such an act for that purpose, to the United States in Congress assembled, as, when agreed to by them, and afterwards confirmed by the Legislatures of every State, will effectually provide for the same.—*Madison's Journal of the Constitutional Convention*, pp. 38-40. (Albert, Scott & Co. edition.)

Congress took this resolution of the Annapolis convention into consideration, and finally passed, on February 21, 1787, the following:

Resolved, That in the opinion of Congress, it is expedient that, on the second Monday in May next, a Convention of Delegates, who shall have been appointed by the several States, be held at Philadelphia for the sole and express purpose of revising the Article of Confederation, and reporting to Congress and the several legislatures, such alterations and provisions therein as shall, when agreed to in Congress, and confirmed by the States, render the federal Constitution adequate to the exigencies of Government, and the preservation of the Union.—*Journal of Congress*, vol. IV, p. —.

The legislatures of all the states, except Rhode Island, acted in conformity to this resolution, and sent delegates to Philadelphia. They met and organized on May 25, and adjourned on September 17, 1787. The present constitu-

tion is the result of their labors. The powers granted by the various state legislatures to their delegates may be seen from the following extracts:

GEORGIA. Be it ordained, by the Representatives of the State of Georgia, . . . that William Few, Abraham Baldwin . . . be, . . . appointed Commissioners, who . . . are authorized . . . to meet such deputies as may be appointed and authorized, by other States . . . and to join with them in devising and discussing all such alterations and further provisions as may be necessary to render the Federal Constitution adequate to the exigencies of the Union, and in reporting such an act for that purpose to the United States in Congress assembled, as, when agreed to by them, and duly confirmed by the several States, will effectually provide for the same. . . .—*Elliot, Debates, vol. I, pp. 126-138.*

MASSACHUSETTS. Whereas, Congress did, on the 21st day of February, 1787, Resolve, That, . . . a Convention of Delegates, . . . be held at Philadelphia, for the sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation . . . [rest of resolution quoted]. Now, therefore, etc. [Francis Dana, Elbridge Gerry, Nathaniel Gorham, Rufus King, and Caleb Strong commissioned as delegates.]

CONNECTICUT. Whereas, The Congress of the United States, . . . have recommended that, . . . a convention . . . be held at Philadelphia, for the sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation; [names of delegates follow].

NEW YORK. Resolved, that Hon. Robert Yates, John Lansing, Jr., and Alexander Hamilton, Esqs. be . . . appointed delegates . . . to meet such delegates . . . at Philadelphia, for the sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation . . . [etc as in Georgia].

NEW JERSEY. The Council and Assembly . . . have appointed you [names follow here] to meet such Commissioners . . . as may be appointed by the other States in the Union, . . . for the purpose of taking into consideration, the state of the Union, as to trade and other important objects, and of devising such other provisions as shall appear to be necessary to

render the Constitution of the Federal Government adequate to the exigencies thereof.

PENNSYLVANIA Be it enacted . . . that [names members] are hereby constituted and appointed Deputies from this State . . . to meet such Deputies as may be appointed . . . by other States . . . and join with them in devising, deliberating on, and discussing, all such *alterations and further provisions* as may be necessary to render the Federal Constitution fully adequate to the exigencies of the Union, . . .

DELAWARE. [Almost the same as Pennsylvania.]

MARYLAND. [Almost same wording as Pennsylvania.]

VIRGINIA. [Same wording as Pennsylvania.]

NORTH CAROLINA. For the purpose of revising the Federal Constitution.

SOUTH CAROLINA. By virtue of the power and authority invested by the Legislature of this State, I do hereby commission you [names] to meet such Deputies . . . and to join with [them] in devising and discussing all such alterations, clauses, articles and provisions, as may be thought necessary to render the Federal Constitution entirely adequate to the actual situation and future good government of the Confederate States; . . . [which] when approved and agreed to by them [the United States] and duly ratified and confirmed by the several States, will effectually provide for the exigencies of the Union.

NEW HAMPSHIRE. . . . To remedy the defects of our Federal Union. . . .

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

Madison's Journal of the Constitutional Convention ought to be in the hands of every teacher who gives instruction in the history and civil government of the United States. No library can be considered complete without it. A few extracts are made which will illustrate some of the great issues discussed in the convention, and the position taken on them by the members of the convention. However, it is not possible to give an adequate idea of the value of this work from any short extracts.

After three days spent in organizing, adopting rules, and determining on plans, the debate began. GOVERNOR RANDOLPH, of Virginia, presented the first plan and opened his speech as follows, as given by Madison:

. . . He observed, that, in revising the Federal system we ought to inquire, first, into the properties which such a government ought to possess; secondly, the defects of the Confederation; thirdly, the danger of our situation; and fourthly, the remedy.

(1.) The character of such a government ought to be secure, first against foreign invasion; secondly against dissensions between members of the Union, or seditions in particular States; thirdly to procure to the several States various blessings of which an isolated situation was incapable; fourthly, it should be able to defend itself against encroachments; and fifthly, to be paramount to the State Constitutions.—*Journal of the Constitutional Convention, p. 59.*

Then, after discussing the defects and dangers, he proposed fifteen resolutions as the basis of a remedy. Among these resolutions the following may be cited:

1. Resolved, that the Articles of Confederation ought to be so corrected and enlarged as to accomplish the objects proposed by their institution; namely, "common defense, security of liberty, and general welfare."

3. Resolved, that the National Legislature ought to consist of two branches.

7. Resolved, that a National Executive be instituted,

9. Resolved, that a National Judiciary be established;

. . . —*Ib.*, pp. 59-62.

On May 30 MR. RANDOLPH made a motion which led to action that has been much discussed, and concerning which very different opinions have been expressed. He moved that his first proposition, above cited, should be postponed in order to consider the three following:

(1.) That a union of the States merely federal will

not accomplish the objects proposed by the Articles of Confederation, namely . . .

(2.) That no treaty or treaties among the whole or part of the States, as individual sovereignties, would be sufficient.

(3.) That a *national* government ought to be established, consisting of a *supreme* Legislative, Executive and Judiciary.

Consideration of the first and second of the above resolutions was deferred; the third, after some debate, was adopted. In the course of the debate Gen. Pinckney said:

he doubted whether the act of Congress recommending the convention, or the commissions of the Deputies to it, would authorize a discussion of a system founded on different principles from the Federal Constitution.

MR. GOUVERNEUR MORRIS explained the distinction between a *federal* and a *national, supreme* government, the former being a mere compact resting on the good faith of the parties; the latter having a complete and *compulsive* operation.

After the adoption of this resolution, in the discussion of another question, MR. MADISON

observed, that, whatever reason might have existed for the equality of suffrage when the Union was a federal one among sovereign States, it must cease when a national government should be put into the place.

May 31, a debate took place over Mr. Randolph's fourth resolution, "*that the members of the first branch of the National Legislature ought to be elected by the people of the several states,*" which throws much light on the spirit of the time, and of the convention.

MR. SHERMAN opposed the election by the people, insisting that it ought to be by the State Legislatures. The people, he said, immediately should have as little to do as may be about the government. They want information, and are constantly liable to be misled.

MR. GERBY. The evils we experience flow from the *excess of democracy*. The people do not want virtue,

but are the dupes of pretended patriots. . . . He had, he said, been too republican heretofore; he was still, however, republican; but had been taught by experience the danger of the leveling spirit.

MR. MASON. . . . He admitted that we had been too democratic, but was afraid we should incautiously run into the opposite extreme . . .

MR. WILSON contended strenuously for drawing the most numerous branch of the Legislature immediately from the people. He was for raising the federal pyramid to a considerable altitude, and for that reason wished to give it as broad a basis as possible. No government could long subsist without the confidence of the people. . . .

MR. MADISON considered the popular election of one branch of the National Legislature as essential to every plan of free government. . . .

MR. RANDOLPH. . . . He observed that the general object was to provide a cure for the evils under which the United States labored; that in tracing these evils to their origin, every man had found it in the turbulence and follies of democracy; that some check therefore was to be sought for against this tendency of our governments; and that a good senate seemed more likely to answer the purpose.—*Ib.*, pp. 73-81.

COL. MASON. Under the existing Confederacy, Congress represents the *States*, and not the *people* of the States; their acts operate on the *States*, not on the individuals. The case will be changed in the new plan of government. The people will be represented; they ought therefore to choose the Representatives. . . . —*Ib.*, p. 116.

MR. WILSON. . . . He did not see the danger of the States being devoured by the national government. On the contrary, he wished to keep them from devouring the National Government. . . . —*Ib.*, p. 128.

One of the most difficult questions before the convention was how to settle the varying interests of the large and the small states. At one time it seems as if the convention would break up over the question. A few expressions taken here and there from the debate may help us to understand the bitterness of feeling.

MR. PATTERSON. . . . The convention, he said, was formed in pursuance of an act of Congress; . . . that the amendment of the Confederacy was the object of all the laws and commissions on the subject. . . . The idea of a National Government, as contradistinguished from a federal one, never entered into the mind of any of them. He was strongly attached to the plan of the existing Confederacy, in which the people choose their legislative representatives; and the Legislatures their federal representatives. . . . He alluded to the hint thrown out by MR. WILSON, of the necessity to which the large States might be reduced, of confederating among themselves. . . . New Jersey will never confederate on the plan before the Committee. She would not be swallowed up. He had rather submit to a monarch, to a despot, than to such a fate. . . .

MR. WILSON hoped, if the Confederacy should be dissolved, that a *majority*,—nay, a *minority* of the States would unite for their safety.—*Ib.*, pp. 139-41.

At this point Mr. Patterson introduced the so-called New Jersey plan, which provided only for amending the Articles of Confederation. The debate was renewed with the following result:

MR. WILSON. . . . With regard to the *power* of the convention, he conceived himself authorized to *conclude nothing*, but to be at liberty to propose *anything*. . . . With regard to the *sentiments* of the people, he conceived it difficult to know precisely what they are. . . . Why should a National Government be unpopular? . . . Will a citizen of *Delaware* be degraded by becoming a citizen of the *United States*? . . .

MR. PINCKNEY. The whole thing comes to this . . . Give New Jersey an equal vote, and she will dismiss her scruples, and concur in the National system.—*Ib.*, pp. 171-174.

On June 19, by a vote of seven states to three, it was carried to take up Mr. Randolph's plan instead of Mr. Patterson's.

MR. WILSON. Can we forget for whom we are form-

ing a government? Is it for *men*, or for the imaginary beings called *States*? . . .—*Ib.*, p. 272.

DR. FRANKLIN. The diversity of opinions turns on two points. If a proportional representation takes place, the small States contend that their liberties will be in danger. If an equality of votes is to be put in its place, the large States say their money will be in danger. . . .

MR. DAYTON. . . . He considered the system on the table as a novelty, an amphibious monster; and was persuaded that it never would be received by the people.

MR. MARTIN would never confederate, if it could not be done on just principles.

MR. BEDFORD contended, that there was no middle way between a perfect consolidation, and a mere confederacy of the States. The first is out of the question; and in the latter they must continue, if not perfectly, yet equally sovereign. . . . The large States dare not dissolve the confederation. If they do the small States will find a foreign ally, of more honor and good faith, who will take them by the hand, and do them justice. . . .

MR. GERRY. . . . If no compromise should take place, what will be the consequence. A secession he foresaw would take place, for some gentlemen seemed decided on it. . . .—*Ib.*, p. 297.

MR. GOUVERNEUR MORRIS regretted the turn of the debate. The States, he found, had many representatives on the floor. Few, he feared, were to be deemed the Representatives of America. He thought the Southern States have, by this Report, more than their share of representation. . . .—*Ib.*, p. 317.

On Monday, July 16, the turning point in the convention came. After a very deep and earnest, if not bitter, discussion, a compromise was seen to be practicable, by which the Senate and the House, as we now have them, came into being. It was some days later, however, before the formal terms were agreed upon.

MR. RANDOLPH. . . . He could not but think that we were unprepared to discuss this subject further. It will probably be in vain to come to any final decision

with a bare majority on either side. For these reasons he wished the Convention to adjourn, that the large States might consider the steps proper to be taken, in the present solemn crisis of the business; and that the small States might also deliberate on the means of conciliation.

MR. PATTERSON thought that it was high time for the Convention to adjourn; that the rule of secrecy ought to be rescinded; and that our constituents should be consulted. No conciliation could be admissible on the part of the smaller States, on any other ground than that of an equality of votes in the second branch [the Senate]. If Mr. Randolph would reduce to form his motion for an adjournment *sine die*, he would second it with all his heart.

MR. RUTLIDGE could see no need of an adjournment because he could see no chance of a compromise. The little States were fixed, . . . All that the large States, then, had to do was, to decide whether they would yield or not.—*Ib.*, pp. 358-59.

There is not space for the proceedings in many of the ratifying conventions. But as the form of words was not greatly different, a few cases will illustrate the spirit, and in the main, the form in all.

DELAWARE. We, the Deputies of the People of the Delaware State, in Convention met, having taken into our serious consideration the Federal Constitution, proposed and agreed upon by the Deputies of the United States, in a General Convention, held at the City of Philadelphia, . . . have approved, assented to, ratified, and confirmed, and by these presents do, . . . for and in behalf of ourselves and our constituents, fully, freely, and entirely approve of, assent to, ratify, and confirm, the said Constitution.—*Elliot's Debates*, vol. 1, p. 319.

PENNSYLVANIA. In the name of the people of Pennsylvania. Be it known unto all men that we . . . have assented to and ratified and by these presents do . . . in the name and by the authority of the same people, and for ourselves, assent to and ratify the foregoing Constitution for the United States of America. . . .—*Elliot's Debates*, vol. 1, p. 319.

QUESTIONS.

1. Who was Thomas Paine? 2. What important part did he play in the American revolution? 3. What the style of his writings? 4. Has he had justice done him by American historians? 5. What view does he take of the western lands? 6. When was "Common Sense" written? 7. What relation did he believe the States ought to sustain to each other? 8. What did he desire a continental convention for? 9. Did time prove him right? 10. Was Washington hopeful of the future in 1783? 11. Did he feel any changes were necessary? 12. Compile from all his letters the reasons he considers the Articles of Confederation defective. 13. Was Washington a hopeful man or not? 14. Did he love his State or the Union the more? 15. Did Washington believe that morally the people were improving or not? 16. What do you think of the four things Washington believed to be essential for our prosperity? 17. Why does he talk so much of local prejudices? 18. What is the important point in Washington's philosophy of government? 19. Where was sovereignty located in Washington's view under the Confederacy? 20. In what way was Great Britain getting the better of us? 21. Does Washington get more or less hopeful as the years pass? 22. Had the treaty with England been kept? 23. Name the doctrine set forth in Knox's letter to Washington, quoted in his letter to Madison. 24. In what section did Washington think there was the greatest need of reform? 25. Give reason Washington assigned for attending the Constitutional Convention. 26. What does it show concerning his character? 27. Look up other reasons. 28. When do Washington's fears begin to lessen? 29. Do you find any difference in the tone of the letters of Washington and Jefferson? 30. What kind of powers does the latter wish given to Congress? 31. Name the various changes he would have made in the Articles of Confederation. 32. What proposal does he object to? 33. Was he right or wrong? 34. What power did he propose to place in the hands of the courts? 35. Name the powers he liked in the new constitution. 36. Name those he objected to. 37. Were his objections well founded? 38. Is he or Washington the more constructive? 39. Name the motive which prompted the meeting of the first Continental Congress. 40. How did they vote? 41. What effect later of this action? 42. When did the enforcing power of the Union begin? 43. What kind of a government formed by the Articles of Confederation? 44. Name the proposed amendments to the Articles of Confederation. 45. Would it have been best to have had them adopted? 46. What question directly led to the Constitutional Convention? 47. Name the conventions held. 48. What was the work


of the Annapolis convention? 49. What did it wish the next one to do? 50. What powers had the delegates to the Constitutional Convention? 51. For what purpose did Congress call the convention? 52. Did the convention act within its granted powers? 53. What important changes proposed in Articles of Confederation by Randolph? 54. What change did he make later in the nature of his resolutions? 55. What does the debate in the convention indicate in regard to the nature of the government under the Articles? 56. Under the Constitution? 57. What marked difference between a national and a federal government? 58. Were the members of the convention believers in democracy? 59. Name those friendly to the idea—those opposed. 60. Explain why so many opposed to the idea. 61. What ideas contending for mastery in the convention? 62. Over what question did the convention come nearest breaking up? 63. Form of ratification of constitution. 64. Who adopted the constitution? 65. Write an essay on the defects of the Articles of Confederation. 66. On the political ideas and spirit of Washington and Jefferson; comparisons. 67. On the growth of the idea of Union. 68. On who stood for the best idea on the whole in the Constitutional Convention. 69. Were the people then more moral than now? 70. Compare ideas of nationality and localism.

INTERPRETATION OF THE CONSTITUTION; NATIONALITY

Broad and Strict Construction, 1791. Nationality and States' Rights in Kentucky. Resolutions, 1798, Hartford Convention, 1814; Nullification, 1832-33; Secession, 1860-61. Internal questions, 1789-92. Foreign affairs dominant, 1793-1815. Material interests as bank, tariff, and internal improvements, 1815-1835. Growth of democracy, 1820-1860; Slavery important, 1835-45, and dominant, 1845-70. Constitution tested in purchase of Louisiana, 1803.

CHAPTER V

INTERPRETATION OF THE CONSTITUTION; NATIONALITY

HE Constitution formed in 1787 has been in process of growth ever since through interpretation and construction. Of course, it has also grown by the addition of fifteen amendments. In time these have been contracted or expanded by the meanings which have been attached to them by the various departments of the government. Perhaps the courts, and especially the Supreme Court of the United States, have been the most potent factors in this development, yet it must ever be kept in mind that the political departments of the government, namely, the legislative and the executive, have also to give final decisions in all political questions; and the first interpretation of the Constitution, in law making, in all questions which may become judicial as well.

There is scarcely a clause of the Constitution which has not been subjected to this process. It may, perhaps, be stated without exaggeration that there is not a clause in the Constitution so clear that varying ideas in regard to its meaning have not been set forth at some time by someone. It is also true that the Constitution as a whole had to have an interpretation placed upon it. Before a final decision was given, the court of armies was called in. The most desperate civil war of all history was needed to decide upon the location of sovereignty. Had it not been for the existence of sectional slavery, it is probable that *there would never have arisen the necessity for*

making the decision. Yet we must notice that when an attempt was made in our Constitution to place some powers in the central government, and to leave others in the states, the line of division drawn was an indefinite one, hence the chance came for such a struggle. We have already noticed the many factors which were tending to localism, and the counter ones which were developing a feeling of nationality as well as the fact. In this paper, the larger part of the extracts are to show the varying interpretations of the Constitution connected with this idea of nationality. This discussion played in the main around the question of implied powers, the location of sovereignty, the slavery issue, and the right of determining the institutions of the territories. It would be claiming too much to say that in treating these topics one had exhausted the subject. In the brief space allotted me I can do no more than give a fair insight into the first two, and touch the others.

IMPLIED POWERS.

The doctrine of "implied powers" first arose in connection with the establishment of the national bank in 1791. On this subject I have let Jefferson, Hamilton, and Madison speak. Mr. Jefferson in his letter to President Washington uses the following arguments:

It is an established rule of construction when a phrase will bear either of two meanings to give it that which will allow some meaning to the other parts of the instrument, and not that which would render all the others useless. Certainly no such universal power was meant to be given them. It was intended to lace them up straightly within the enumerated powers, and those without which, as means, these powers could not be carried into effect. It is known that the very power now proposed as a means, was rejected as an end, by the convention which formed the constitution. . . .

The second general phrase is, "to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying into execution the enumerated powers." But they can all be carried into execution without a bank. . . .

. . . The constitution allows only the means which are "necessary," not those which are merely "convenient" for effecting the enumerated powers. If such a latitude of construction be allowed to this phrase as to give any non-enumerated power, it will go to every one, for there is not one which ingenuity may not torture into a convenience in some instance or other, . . . It would swallow up all the delegated powers, and reduce the whole to one power as before observed. Therefore it was that the constitution restrained them to the necessary means. Can it be thought that the constitution intended that for a shade or two of convenience, more or less, congress should be authorized to break down the most ancient and fundamental laws?—*Writings of Thomas Jefferson*, vol. V (1895 ed.), pp. 286-289.

Hamilton argues for the constitutionality of the bank, and in doing this struck a great blow for nationality. Some of the most telling points of his argument are these:

Now it appears to the Secretary of the Treasury that this *general principle is inherent* in the very definition of government, and *essential* to every step of the progress to be made by that of the United States, namely, that every power vested in a government is in its nature SOVEREIGN, and includes, by *force of the term*, a right to employ all the means requisite, and fairly applicable, to the attainment of the *ends* of such power, and which are not precluded by restrictions and exceptions specified in the constitution; or not immoral; or not contrary to the essential ends of political society.

It is not denied that there are implied as well as *express* powers, and that the former are as effectually delegated as the latter; and . . . there is another class of powers, which may be properly denominated *resulting* powers. It will not be doubted that if the United States should make a conquest of any of the territories of its neighbors they would possess sovereign *jurisdiction* over the conquered territory. This would

rather be the result from the whole mass of the powers of the government, and from the nature of political society, than a consequence of either of the powers specially enumerated.

Then . . . as a power of erecting a corporation may as well be *implied* as any other thing; it may as well be employed as an *instrument* or means of carrying into execution any of the specified powers, as any other instrument or means whatever.

. . . *Necessary* often means no more than *needful*, *requisite*, *incidental*, *useful*, or *conducive to*, . . . and it is the true one in which it is to be understood as used in the constitution. The whole turn of the clause containing it indicates that it was the intent of the convention, by that clause, to give a liberal latitude to the exercise of the specified powers. The expressions have a peculiar comprehensiveness. They are: "To make all laws necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by the constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or office thereof." To understand the word as the Secretary of State does would be to depart from its obvious and popular sense and to give it a *restrictive* operation, an idea never before entertained. It would be to give it the same force as if the word *absolutely* or *indispensably* had been prefixed to it.

[It is] no valid objection to the doctrine to say that it is calculated to extend the powers of the government throughout the entire sphere of state legislation. The same thing has been said, and may be said with regard to every exercise of power, by *implication* or *construction*. The moment the literal meaning is departed from there is a chance of error and abuse; and yet an adherence to the letter of its powers would at once arrest the motion of government. It is not only agreed on all hands that the exercise of constructive powers is indispensable, but every act which has been passed is more or less an exemplification of it. . . .

That which declares the power of the President to remove officers at pleasure acknowledges the same truth.

It leaves, therefore, a criterion of what is constitu-

tional and of what is not so. This criterion is the *end* to which the measure relates as a *mean*. If the end be clearly comprehended within any of the specified powers, and if the measure have an obvious relation to that end and is not forbidden by any particular provision of the constitution, it may safely be deemed to come within the compass of the national authority. There is also this further criterion, which may materially assist the decision. Does the proposed measure abridge a pre-existing right of any state or of any individual? If it does not, there is a strong presumption in favour of its constitutionality; and slighter relations to any declared object of the constitution may be permitted to turn the scale.—*Works of Alexander Hamilton, vol. I, pp. 112-123.*

Madison was in the House at this time, and had at first been the spokesman of the administration. On this question of the bank he separated himself entirely from Hamilton, with whom he had so long worked, and became the leader, with Jefferson, of the newly forming Republican party. In Congress he said:

After some general remarks on the limitations of all political power, he took notice of the peculiar manner in which the Federal Government is limited. It is not a general grant, out of which particular powers are excepted; it is a grant of particular powers only, leaving the general mass in other hands. So it had been understood by its friends and its foes, and so it was to be interpreted.

The essential characteristic of the Government, as composed of limited and enumerated powers, would be destroyed if, instead of direct and incidental means any means could be used, which, in the language of the preamble to the bill, "might be conceived to be conducive to the successful conducting of the finances, or might be conceived to tend to give facility to the obtaining of loans. . . .

The Doctrine of implication is always a tender one. The danger of it has been felt in other Governments. . . .

The delicacy was felt in the adoption of our own;

the danger may also be felt if we do not keep close to our chartered authorities.

Mark the reasoning on which the validity of the bill depends! To borrow money is made the end, and the accumulation of capital implied as the means. The accumulation of capital is then the end, and a bank implied as the means. The bank is then the end, and a charter of incorporation, a monopoly, capital punishments, etc., implied as the means.

If implications thus remote and multiplied can be linked together, a chain may be formed that will reach every object of legislation, every object within the whole compass of political economy.

The latitude of interpretation required by the bill is condemned by the rule furnished by the constitution itself.

The danger of implied power does not arise from its assuming a new principle; we have not only practiced it often, but we can scarcely proceed without it; nor does the danger proceed so much from the extent of power as from its uncertainty.—*Benton, Debates, vol. I, pp. 275, 276.*

Fisher Ames.

The doctrine that powers may be implied which are not expressly vested in Congress has long been a bugbear to a great many worthy persons. They apprehend that Congress, by putting constructions upon the constitution, will govern by its own arbitrary discretion; and therefore that it ought to be bound to exercise the powers expressly given, and those only.

If Congress may not make laws conformably to the powers plainly implied, though not expressed in the frame of Government, it is rather late in the day to adopt it as a principle of conduct. A great part of our two years' labor is lost, and worse than lost to the public, for we have scarcely made a law in which we have not exercised our discretion with regard to the true intent of the constitution.—*Ib., p. 279.*

The question of the constitutionality of the bank came before the Supreme Court in 1819, in *McCulloch vs. Maryland*. Chief Justice Marshall wrote the opinion in the case, and held to the doctrine of implied powers. In this case

again the idea of nationality was affirmed. In part he said:

From these conventions the Constitution derives its whole authority. The government proceeds directly from the people; is "ordained and established" in the name of the people; and is declared to be ordained "in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, and secure the blessings of liberty to themselves and to their posterity." The assent of the States, in their sovereign capacity, is implied in calling a convention, and thus submitting that instrument to the people. But the people were at perfect liberty to accept or reject it; and their act was final. It required not the affirmance, and could not be negatived by the State governments. The Constitution, when thus adopted, was of complete obligation, and bound the State sovereignties.

This government is acknowledged by all to be one of enumerated powers. The principle, that it can exercise only the powers granted to it, would seem too apparent to have required to be enforced by all those arguments which its enlightened friends, while it was depending before the people, found it necessary to urge. That principle is now universally admitted. But the question respecting the extent of the powers actually granted is perpetually arising, and will probably continue to arise as long as our system shall exist.

Among the enumerated powers we do not find that of establishing a bank or creating a corporation. But there is no phrase in the instrument which, like the Articles of Confederation, excludes incidental or implied powers; and which requires that everything granted shall be expressly and minutely described. . .

Although, among the enumerated powers of government, we do not find the word "bank" or "incorporation," we find the great powers to lay and collect taxes; to borrow money; to regulate commerce; to declare and conduct a war; and to raise and support armies and navies.

But it may, with great reason, be contended that a government intrusted with such ample powers, on the

due execution of which the happiness and prosperity of the nation so vitally depends, must also be intrusted with ample means for their execution.

Is that construction of the Constitution to be preferred which would render these operations difficult, hazardous, and expensive? Can we adopt that construction . . . which would impute to the framers of that instrument, when granting these powers for the public good, the intention of impeding their exercise by withholding a choice of means? If, indeed, such be the mandate of the Constitution, we have only to obey; but that instrument does not profess to enumerate the means by which the powers it confers may be executed; nor does it prohibit the creation of a corporation if the existence of such a being be essential to the beneficial exercise of those powers. It is, then, the subject of fair inquiry how far such means may be employed.

But the Constitution of the United States has not left the right of congress to employ the necessary means for the execution of the powers conferred on the government to general reasoning. To its enumeration of powers is added that of making "all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this constitution, in the government of the United States, or in any department thereof."

Congress is not empowered by it to make all laws which may have relation to the powers conferred on the government, but such only as may be "necessary and proper" for carrying them into execution. The word "necessary" is considered as controlling the whole sentence, and as limiting the right to pass laws for the execution of the granted powers to such as are indispensable, and without which the power would be nugatory. . . .

Is it true that this is the sense in which the word "necessary" is always used?

To employ the means necessary to an end is generally understood as employing any means calculated to produce the end, and not as being confined to those

single means without which the end would be entirely unattainable.

A thing may be necessary, very necessary, absolutely or indispensably necessary.

If the word "necessary" means "needful," "requisite," "essential," "conducive to" in order to let in the power of punishment for the infraction of law, why is it not equally comprehensive when required to authorize the use of means which facilitate the execution of the powers of government without the infliction of punishment? . . . That any means adapted to the end; any means which tended directly to the execution of the constitutional powers of the government, were in themselves constitutional.

Let the end be legitimate, let it be within the scope of the Constitution, and all means which are appropriate, which are plainly adapted to that end, which are not prohibited, but consist with the letter and spirit of the constitution, are constitutional.—*Thayer, Cases in Constitutional Law, vol. I, pp. 274-285.*

QUESTIONS.

1. When was the present constitution formed? 2. Is it expressed in general or specific terms? 3. Who interprets the constitution? 4. Who interprets it finally? 5. What do you understand by "implied powers"? 6. Could there be any implied powers under the Articles of Confederation? 7. Over what question did the discussion of the "implied powers" first arise? 8. Summarize Jefferson's argument. 9. Can you give any example to illustrate his first sentence? 10. What did he believe "necessary" meant? 11. What principle does Hamilton start out with? 12. What three kinds of powers does he name? 13. What meanings does he give to "necessary"? 14. What *means* does he claim may be used when the right to the *end* is admitted? 15. Summarize Madison's arguments. 16. Compare arguments of the three men. 17. Give Fisher Ames' argument. 18. Make an outline of the arguments of John Marshall. 19. Of all their arguments, which do you consider the greatest? Why? 20. Was it important to have the doctrine of implied powers prevail? Why?

SOVEREIGNTY. IN NATION OR STATE?

Perhaps the first formal statement of that

interpretation of the Constitution which affirmed the right of the state to be the final judge of its powers was given in the Kentucky Resolutions of 1798. Indirectly out of these resolutions came nullification and secession. Whether this succession was legitimate or not is an open question, but the parentage, as far as use is concerned, is undoubted. The important resolve read as follows:

1. Resolved, That the several states composing the United States of America are not united on the principle of unlimited submission to their general government, but that by compact under the style and title of a Constitution of the United States, and of amendments thereto, they constituted a general government for special purposes, delegated to that government certain definite powers, reserving, each state to itself, the residuary mass of right to their own self-government; and that whensoever the general government assumes undelegated powers its acts are unauthorized, void, and of no force. . . .

To this resolution several states answered that the final judge of the powers of the federal government rested in the Supreme Court. The legislature of Kentucky replied in 1799 in these words, in part:

Resolved, That this commonwealth consider the Federal Union, upon the terms and for the purposes specified in the late compact, as conducive to the liberty and happiness of the several states; That it does now unequivocally declare its attachment to the Union, and to that compact, agreeably to its obvious and real intention, and will be among the last to seek its dissolution; That if those who administer the general government be permitted to transgress the limits fixed by that compact, by a total disregard to the special delegations of power therein contained, an annihilation of the state governments and the creation upon their ruins of a general consolidated government will be the inevitable consequence; That the principle and construction contended for by sundry of the state legislatures, that the general government is the exclusive

judge of the extent of the powers delegated to it, stop nothing short of despotism, since the discretion of those who administer the government, and not the constitution, would be the measure of their powers. . . . That this commonwealth does, under the most deliberate reconsideration, declare the said alien and sedition laws are, in their opinion, palpable violations of the said Constitution. . . . That, although this commonwealth, as a party to the federal compact, will bow to the laws of the Union, yet it does at the same time declare that it will not now, or ever hereafter, cease to oppose in a constitutional manner every attempt, at what quarter soever offered, to violate that compact. . . .—Cited in *Cluskey, Political Text-Book*.

James Wilson, in the Pennsylvania ratifying convention, in 1787, outlined his opinion in regard to the nature of the Constitution in these words. This description may be contrasted with the preceding:

The very manner of introducing this Constitution, by the recognition of the authority of the people, is said to change the principle of the present Confederation and to introduce a *consolidating* and absorbing government. . . .

In this confederated republic, the sovereignty of the states, it is said, is not preserved. We are told that there cannot be two sovereign powers, and that a subordinate sovereignty is no sovereignty.

It has not been, nor, I presume, will it be, denied that somewhere there is, and of necessity must be, a supreme, absolute, and uncontrollable authority.

His [Mr. Findley's] position is that the supreme power resides in the states, as governments; and mine is that it resides in the people, as the foundation of government: that the people have not that the people meant not—and that the people ought not, to part with it, to any government whatsoever.—Cited in *Foster on the Constitution*, pp. 104-106.

I consider the people of the United States as forming one great community; and I consider the people of the different States as forming communities, again,

on a lesser scale. From this great division of the people into distinct communities, it will be found necessary that different proportions of legislative power should be given to the government, according to the nature, number, and magnitude of their objects.

Whosoever considers, in a combined and comprehensive view, the general texture of the Constitution, will be satisfied that the people of the United States intended to form themselves into a nation for *national purposes*. They instituted for such purposes a national government, complete in all its parts, with powers legislative, executive, and judiciary, and in all those powers extending over the whole nation.—*Ib.*, 107-109.

Rawle, in his introduction to Blackstone, uses the following phrase. He wrote in 1825:

"The secession of a State from the Union depends on the will of the people of such a State. The people alone, as we have already seen, hold the power to alter their constitution."—*Cited in Foster*, p. 113.

The Massachusetts legislature (Federal), in discussing the annexation of Louisiana, 1803, indicated very clearly its views of the nature of the Constitution.

That the annexation of Louisiana to the Union transcends the constitutional power of the government of the United States. It forms a new Confederacy, to which the States united by the former compact are not bound to adhere.—*Ib.*, p. 116.

A most elaborate discussion of the nature of the Constitution took place over the admission of Louisiana. Josiah Quincy, the leader of the Federalists, discussed the subject fully. Extensive extracts are given from his speech, as it sets forth the views of his party at that time most ably and completely.

But, sir, the principle of this bill materially affects the liberties and rights of the whole people of the United States. To me it appears that it would justify a revolution in this country, and that, in no great length of time, it may produce it. When I see the

zeal and perseverance with which this bill has been urged along its parliamentary path, when I know the local interests and associated projects which combine to promote its success, all opposition to it seems manifestly unavailing. I am almost tempted to leave, without a struggle, my country to its fate

If there be a man in this House, or nation, who cherishes the Constitution, . . . I fall not behind him in such sentiments. I will yield to no man in attachment to this Constitution, in veneration for the sages who laid its foundations, in devotion for those principles which form its cement and constitute its proportions. What, then, must be my feelings, what ought to be the feelings of a man, cherishing such sentiments, when he sees an act contemplated which lays ruin at the foot of all these hopes.

Mr. Speaker, there is a great rule of human conduct which he who honestly observes can not err widely from the path of his sought duty. It is, to be very scrupulous concerning the principles you select as the test of your rights and obligations; to be very faithful in noticing the result of their application; and to be very fearless in tracing and exposing their immediate effects and distant consequences. Under the sanction of this rule of conduct, I am compelled to declare *it as my deliberate opinion that, if this bill passes, the bonds of this union are, actually, dissolved; that the States which compose it are free from their moral obligations, and that, as it will be the right of all, so it will be the duty of some, to prepare, definitely, for a separation: amicably, if they can; violently, if they must.*

The bill which is now proposed to be passed has this assumed principle for its basis: that the three branches of this national government, without recurrence to conventions of the people in the States, or to the Legislatures of the States, are authorized to admit new partners to a share of the political power, in countries out of the original limits of the United States. Now, this assumed principle, I maintain to be altogether without any sanction in the Constitution. I declare it to be a manifest and atrocious usurpation of power; of a nature dissolving, according to undeniable principles of moral law, the obligations of our

national compact, and leading to the awful consequences which flow from such a state of things

Touching the general nature of the instrument called the Constitution of the United States there is no obscurity; . . . There can be no doubt about its nature. It is a political compact. . . .

It is, we the people of the United States, for ourselves and our posterity; not for the people of Louisiana, nor for the people of New Orleans, or of Canada. None of these enter into the scope of the instrument; it embraces only "the United States of America."

Sir, what is this power we propose now to usurp? Nothing less than a power changing all the proportions of the weight and influence possessed by the potent sovereignties composing this Union. A stranger is to be introduced to an equal share without their consent. Upon a principle pretended to be deduced from the Constitution, this government, after this bill passes, may and will multiply foreign partners in power at its own mere notion; at its irresponsible pleasure; in other words, as local interests, party passions, or ambitious views may suggest.

"But," the gentleman adds, "what shall we do if we do not admit the people of Louisiana into our Union? Our children are settling that country." Sir, it is no concern of mine what he does

This Constitution never was, and never can be, strained to lap over all the wilderness of the West without essentially affecting both the rights and convenience of its real proprietors.

Suppose, then, that it had been distinctly foreseen that, in addition to the effect of this weight, the whole population of a world beyond the Mississippi was to be brought into this and the other branch of the Legislature, to form our laws, control our rights, and decide our destiny. Sir, can it be pretended that the patriots of that day would for one moment have listened to it? They were not madmen. They had not taken degrees at the hospital of idiocy

It was not for these men [people of Louisiana] that our fathers fought. It was not for them that this Constitution was adopted. You have no authority to throw the rights and liberties and properties of this people into the "hotch-pot" with the wild men of the Missouri, nor with the mixed, though more respecta-

ble race of Anglo Hispano Gallo-Americans who bask on the sands in the mouth of the Mississippi. I will add only a few words, in relation to the moral and political consequences of usurping this power. I have said that it would be a virtual dissolution of the Union; and gentlemen express great sensibility at the expression. But the true source of terror is not the declaration I have made, but the deed you propose.

New States are intended to be formed beyond the Mississippi. There is no limit to men's imaginations on this subject, short of California and the Columbia River.

The extension of this principle to the States contemplated beyond the Mississippi cannot, will not, and ought not to be borne.—*American Orations, vol. I, pp. 180-202*

The New England states spoke in these words in the Hartford convention of 1814:

In cases of deliberate, dangerous, and palpable infractions of the Constitution, affecting the sovereignty of a State and liberties of the people, it is not only the right, but the duty, of such a State to interpose its authority for their protection, in the manner best calculated to secure that end. When emergencies occur which are either beyond the reach of the judicial tribunals, or too pressing to admit of the delay incident to their forms, States which have no common Empire must be their own judges, and execute their own decisions. It will thus be proper for the several States to await the ultimate disposal of the obnoxious measures recommended by the Secretary of War, or pending before Congress, and so to use their power according to the character these measures shall finally assume, as effectually to protect their own sovereignty and the rights and liberties of their citizens.—*Cited in Foster on the Constitution, vol. I, pp. 117, 118.*

As late as 1844 and 1845 we find the legislature of Massachusetts using these phrases:

That the project of annexation of Texas, unless arrested on the threshold, may drive these States into a dissolution of the Union.—*Foster, p. 118.*

As the powers of legislation granted in the Constitution of the United States to Congress do not embrace

the case of the admission of a foreign state, or foreign territory, by legislation, into the Union, such an act of admission would have no binding force whatever on the people of Massachusetts.—*Ib.*, p. 118.

The legislature of Wisconsin (Republican) passed the following in 1859:

Whereas, The Supreme Court of the United States has assumed appellate jurisdiction in the petition of Sherman M. Booth for a writ of habeas corpus presented and prosecuted to a final judgment in the Supreme Court of this State, and . . . assumed the power to reverse that judgment in a matter involving the personal liberty of the citizen. . . .

Resolved, That this assumption . . . is an act of undelegated power, and therefore without authority, void, and of no force.

Resolved, That the [national] Government . . . was not made exclusive or final judge of the extent of the powers delegated to itself, but that . . . each [state] has an equal right to judge for itself, as well of infractions as the mode and measure of redress.

Resolved, That the principle . . . that the general Government is the exclusive judge of the extent of the powers delegated to it, stop nothing short of despotism; since the discretion of those who administer the Government, and not the Constitution, would be the measure of their powers; that the several States which formed that instrument, being sovereign and independent, have the unquestionable right to judge of its infractions; and that a positive defiance of those sovereignties of all unauthorized acts done under color of that instrument is the rightful remedy.—*Cited in Tylor's Life of Taney*, p. 307.

But let us listen to Lincoln to hear what he has to say on this interesting subject. These extracts are from his inaugural, and from his first annual message:

I hold that in contemplation of universal law and of the Constitution the union of these States is perpetual. Perpetuity is implied, if not expressed, in the fundamental law of all national Governments.

Again, if the United States be not a government proper, but an association of States in the nature of

contract merely, can it, as a contract, be peaceably unmade by less than all parties who make it? One party to a contract may violate it, break it, so to speak; but does it not require all to lawfully rescind it?

. . . no State upon its own mere motion can lawfully get out of the Union; that resolves and ordinances to that effect are legally void; and that acts of violence within any State or States, against the authority of the United States, are insurrectionary or revolutionary, according to circumstances.

I therefore consider that in view of the Constitution and the laws, the Union is unbroken; and to the extent of my ability I shall take care, as the Constitution itself expressly enjoins upon me, that the laws of the Union be faithfully executed in all the States.

And this issue embraces more than the fate of the United States. It represents to the whole family of man the question whether a constitutional republic or democracy—a government of the people by the same people—can or cannot maintain its territorial integrity against its own domestic foes.

"Is there in all republics this inherent and fatal weakness?" Must a government of necessity be too strong for the liberties of its own people, or too weak to maintain its own existence?

It might seem, at first thought, to be of little difference whether the present movement at the South be called "secession" or "rebellion." The movers, however, well understand the difference. At the beginning they knew they could never raise their treason to any respectable magnitude by any name which implies violation of law.

They invented an ingenious sophism which, if conceded, was followed by perfectly logical steps, through all the incidents, to the complete destruction of the Union. The sophism itself is that any state of the Union may, consistently with the national constitution, and therefore lawfully and peacefully, withdraw from the Union without the consent of the Union or of any other state. The little disguise that the supposed right is to be exercised only for just cause, themselves to be the sole judges of its justice, is too thin to merit any notice.

Having never been States either in substance or in

name outside of the Union whence this magical omnipotence of "State Rights," asserting a claim of power to lawfully destroy the Union itself? Much is said about the "sovereignty" of the States; but the word, even, is not in the National Constitution, nor, as is believed, in any of the State constitutions. What is "sovereignty" in the political sense of the term? Would it be far wrong to define it "a political community without a political superior?" Tested by this, no one of our States, except Texas, ever was a "sovereignty."

By conquest or purchase the Union gave each of them whatever of independence or liberty it has. The Union is older than any of the States, and, in fact, it created them as States. Originally some dependent colonies made the Union, and in turn, the Union threw off their old independence for them, and made them States, such as they are.

What is now combated is the position that secession is consistent with the Constitution,—is lawful and peaceful. It is not contended that there is any express law for it; and nothing should ever be implied as law which leads to unjust or absurd consequences.

The seceders insist that our Constitution admits of secession.

The principle itself is one of disintegration, and upon which no government can possibly endure.—*Abraham Lincoln, Works, vol. II, pp. 5-63.*

In 1867, Chief Justice Chase, speaking for the Supreme Court in the case of *Texas vs. White*, formulated this famous description of the Constitution of the United States:

The Constitution, in all its provisions, looks to an indestructible Union, composed of indestructible States.

QUESTIONS.

1. What two views have been held in regard to the location of sovereignty? 2. What do you understand by sovereignty? 3. What doctrine set forth in the Kentucky resolutions? 4. What law did Kentucky hold unconstitutional? 5. How did they regard such a law? 6. Find out who drafted these resolutions. 7. Could the author of the Kentucky resolutions have cited James Wilson to support his views? 8. How did Mr. Rawle regard the Constitution? 9. Was Mas-

sachusetts, from 1803 to 1814, national or States Rights? 10. Find out the reason for its position. 11. Make an analysis of the arguments of Mr Quincy. 12. Find out why he was so opposed to the West. 13. How would his views and those of Jefferson Davis in 1861 agree? 14. What did he mean by a "political compact"? 15. Was he narrow or broad minded? 16. Was he a good speaker? 17. Point out strong passages. 18. What view did the Hartford convention take? 19. Learn all you can of this convention. 20. Point out all the passages you can find that show a states right doctrine. 21. Gather all the passages which prove the national idea. 22. How do you explain the fact that men could differ so greatly? 23. Could both have been honest in their beliefs? 24. The position of what party surprises you most? 25. Outline Lincoln's arguments. 26. Does he agree with the Wisconsin republicans of 1859? 27. Can you find out the reason for the change? 28. Commit to memory Chase's definition of the Union. 29. Has this study made you any more tolerant than you were before? 30. Write an essay on the doctrine of "implied powers." 31. Write one on the contest between "states rights" and "nationality."

ACQUISITION OF TERRITORY.

Some additional light is thrown on the nature of the Constitution by adding the opinions of a few other men in regard to the right to acquire territory. Jefferson, in 1803, said, in speaking of the Louisiana purchase:

This treaty must, of course, be laid before both Houses, because both have important functions to exercise respecting it. They, I presume, will see their duty to their country in ratifying and paying for it, so as to secure a good which would otherwise probably be never again in their power. But I suppose they must then appeal to the nation for an additional article to the Constitution, approving and confirming an act which the nation had not previously authorized. The Constitution has made no provision for our holding foreign territory, still less for incorporating foreign nations into our Union. The executive, in seizing the fugitive occurrence, which so much advances the good of our country, has done an act beyond the Constitution. The legislature, in casting behind them metaphysical subtleties and risking themselves like faithful *serranos*, must ratify and pay for it, and throw

themselves on their country for doing for them unauthorized what we know they would have done for themselves had they been in a situation to do it. It is the case of a guardian, investing the money of his ward in purchasing an important adjacent territory, and saying to him when of age, I did this for your good; I pretend to no right to bind you; you may disavow me, and I must get out of the scrape if I can, I thought it my duty to risk myself for you. But we shall not be disavowed by the nation, and their act of indemnity will confirm and not weaken the Constitution, by more strongly marked lines.

Our confederation is certainly confined to the limits established by the revolution. The general government has no powers but such as the Constitution has given it; and it has not given it a power of holding foreign territory, and still less of incorporating it into the Union. An amendment of the Constitution seems necessary for this. In the meantime we must ratify and pay our money, as we have treated, for a thing beyond the Constitution, and rely on the nation to sanction an act done for its great good, without its previous authority.—*Thomas Jefferson, Writings* (ed. 1895), vol. VIII, pp. 262, 512.

Webster, about 1820, speaks in these words:

It was consistent with the Constitution of the United States, or thought to be so in Mr. Jefferson's time, to attach Louisiana to the United States. A treaty with France was made for that purpose. Mr. Jefferson's opinion at that moment was, that an alteration of the Constitution was necessary to enable it to be done. In consequence of considerations to which I need not now refer, that opinion was abandoned, and Louisiana was admitted by law, without any provision in, or alteration of, the Constitution. My opinion remains unchanged, that it was not within the original scope or design of the Constitution to admit new States out of foreign country.—*Webster, Works*, vol. II, p. 551.

QUESTIONS.

1. How did Jefferson feel in regard to right to buy Louisiana?
2. Why, then, did he make the purchase?
3. Would you expect Webster to take the same view?
4. How do we regard the right now?
5. How explain the change?

ARISTOCRACY VS. DEMOCRACY.

The aristocratic tendencies of a part of the American people at the close of the last century is well illustrated by the following extracts from Fisher Ames, the most eloquent of the Federalists. A few quotations from Jefferson to show the opposite belief must close this paper.

All such men are, or ought to be, agreed, that simple governments are despotisms, and of all despotisms a democracy, though the least durable, is the most violent

The known propensity of a democracy is to licentiousness, which the ambitious call, and the ignorant believe, to be liberty.

The great object, then, of political wisdom in framing our Constitution was to guard against licentiousness, that inbred malady of democracies, that deforms their infancy with gray hairs and decrepitude. . . .

The Press, however, has left the understanding of the mass of men just where it found it; but, by supplying an endless stimulus to their imagination and passions, it has rendered their temper and habits infinitely worse, it has inspired ignorance with presumption, so that those who cannot be governed by reason are no longer awed by authority. . . .

While it has impaired the force that every just government can employ in self-defence, it has imparted to its enemies the result of that wildfire, that blazes with the most consuming fierceness on attempting to quench it. . . .

It is undoubtedly a salutary labour to diffuse among the citizens of a free state, as far as the thing is possible, a just knowledge of their publick affairs. But the difficulty of this task is augmented exactly in proportion to the freedom of the state; for the more the citizens, the bolder and more profligate will be their demagogues, the more numerous and eccentric the popular errors, and the more vehement and pertinacious the passions that defend them.

Yet, as if there were neither vice nor passion in the world, one of the loudest of our boasts, one of the dearest of all the tenets of our creed is, that we are a sovereign people—self-governed,—it would be nearer the

truth to say, self-conceited. For in what sense is it true, that any people, however free, are self-governed? If they have in fact no government, but such as comports with their ever varying and often inordinate desires, then it is anarchy; if it counteracts those desires, it is compulsory. The individual who is left to act according to his own humour is not governed at all; and if any considerable number, and especially any combination of individuals, find or can place themselves in this situation, then the society is no longer free. For liberty obviously consists in the salutary restraint, and not in the uncontrolled indulgence of such humours.

The republick is a creature of fiction. It is everybody in fancy, but nobody in *heart*. Love, to be anything, must be select and exclusive.

A state consisting of a million citizens has a million sovereigns, each of whom detests all other sovereigns but his own.

Are not the wandering Tartars or Indian hunters at least as susceptible of patriotism as these stragglers in our Western forests, and infinitely fonder of glory? It is difficult to conceive of a country which, from the manner of its settlement or the manifest tendencies of its politicks, is more destitute or more incapable of being inspired with political virtue.

Its nature ordains that its next change shall be into a military despotism, of all known governments, perhaps, the most prone to shift its head, and the slowest to mend its vices. The reason is that the tyranny of what is called the people, and that by the sword, both operate alike to debase and corrupt, till there are neither men left with the spirit to desire liberty, nor morals with the power to sustain justice. Like the burning pestilence that destroys the human body, nothing can subsist by its dissolution but vermine.—*Fisher Ames, Works, pp. 382-419.*

Jefferson speaks as follows:

"The basis of our governments being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter. But I should mean

that every man should receive those papers and be capable of reading them. . . . Among [such societies] public opinion is in the place of law, and restrains morals as powerfully as law ever did anywhere. . . . Cherish, therefore, the spirit of our people and keep alive their attention. Do not be too severe upon their errors, but restrain them by enlightening them. If once they become inattentive to the public affairs, you and I, and Congress and Assemblies, Judges, and Governors, shall all become wolves."—*To Edw. Carrington, Jan. 17, 1787. Works, vol. IV (1853 ed.).*

"I hold it that a little rebellion now and then is a good thing, and as necessary in the political world as storms in the physical. Unsuccessful rebellions, indeed, generally establish the encroachments on the rights of the people which have produced them. An observation of this truth should render honest republican governors so mild in their punishment of rebellions as not to discourage them too much. It is a medicine necessary for the sound health of government."—*To Madison, Jan. 30, 1787. Works, vol. IV (1853 ed.).*

QUESTIONS.

1. How does Ames regard the people? 2. What does he expect to become of democracies? 3. How would you explain his feeling? 4. Compare his ideas with those of Jefferson. 5. Did Jefferson fear little insurrections? 6. Why not? 7. Which expressed the best doctrines?

SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES

I.

Begins 1619. Introduced into all the Colonies. Quakers begin to oppose, 1690. Both Negroes and Indians slaves. Contends with indented white servants to about 1675. Rapid increase after 1700. Not profitable on farms of North. First active ethical movement against, about 1770-80. Massachusetts free, 1780, New Hampshire, 1784. Gradual emancipation provided for in Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania by 1802. Leading men of Virginia its strongest opponents.

CHAPTER VI

SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES

I.

IN some respects this has been the most interesting, as, for a time, it was the most important, question in all American history. The great tragedy of the civil war came from it. For years before that event the people of the north and those of the south were unable to understand one another. It may be that they did not try as hard as they might, yet the environments had become so different from the existence of sectional slavery that it was very difficult for the people to see things from the same standpoints.

It will not do to suppose the civil war was wholly due to slavery, yet that it furnished the main causes I believe history will affirm. Neither must we suppose that the contest was the outcome of momentary hatred, nor that one section can be held wholly responsible for its terrible devastation. The factors had been in process of formation for more than two hundred years. The whole history of the white race on this continent must be studied to understand the problem thoroughly. The soil, climate, and resulting industries played an important part. Perhaps the most important thought for the youth of to-day to grasp is that the two sections were equally honest in their views. History, I believe, will affirm, nay, has affirmed, that those who fought for the southern view were wrong, and that the north, in this case, stood for progress and an advancing civilization. However, we should recognize that conditions and cir-

circumstances to a great degree determined belief; we should do justice to the devotion, the sacrifices, the courage, and the brilliancy with which they fought for a mistaken view. It is now time to cement the bond of union, to look to the future, to study the past for its lessons, but not to taunt nor to condemn.

In a general way we may note, as it seems to me, about four general periods in this history. From 1619 to 1774, the period of planting. During these years the question was little thought about. Very few saw the dangers. It was not a political question at all. It can hardly be said to have come into the field of ethics, although a few here and there began to question its morality.

From 1774 to 1808 there was a marked movement to put an end to the system. This force was strongest under the immediate influence of the Revolution, and had almost entirely passed away in the south by the end of the period. During these years the northern states freed themselves, and thus laid the foundation for the sectional contest. The almost, if not quite, unanimous expression of opinion during the earlier, at least, of these years was that slavery was an evil which it was hoped might pass away.

The third period extended from 1808 to 1844, and was marked by a gradual recognition of the fact that there was no chance for the system to die out of itself. Gradually there came to be a recognition that the supposed interests of the two sections, socially, politically, and industrially were opposed. The north was coming to the view more positively that the whole system was an evil, and many came to believe it a sin for which all must answer. On the other hand, the south ceased to be apologists for its existence, and finally came to believe almost as one man that it was "a good—a positive good."

The last period was that of contest. It began as a political issue, and ended in a physical struggle such as the world had perhaps never seen before. During these years scarcely a fact in American politics can be mentioned which was not more or less involved with the question of slavery.

This brief outline is given, not because it is strictly in accordance with the laboratory method, but because in the brief extracts which I can give not enough matter can be presented to suggest the classification. A study of the following extracts may give something of a chance to test the truth of the conclusions, but they will hardly be full enough to establish their correctness.

The following extracts from the early laws of the colonies will give us some idea of the state of mind which must have been back of the laws:

[1652] And itt is further ordered by this Courte and the authoritje thereof, that all Scotchmen, Negroes, and Indjans inhabitting with or servants to the English, from the age of sixteene to sixty yeares, shall be enlisted. . . .—*Records of the Colony of Mass. Bay*, vol. IV, part I, p. 86.

[1680.] Wm. Seete, Governor: There are but fewe servants amongst us, and less slaves, not above 30, as we judge, in the Colony:—*Colonial Records of Connecticut, 1678-1689*, p. 298.

[1723.] Be it enacted . . . if any negro or Indian servant or slave shall be found abroad from home in the night season, after nine of the clock, without special order from his or their master or mistress, it shall be lawful for any person or persons to apprehend and secure such negro or Indian servant or slave so offending, and him or them bring before the next assistant or justice of peace:—*Ibid*, 1717-1725, p. 890.

[1681. Proposals for the carrying on of the Negroe's Christianity.] Now concerning the Negroe's, . . . The first and great step will be to procure . . . their Owners consent, as being supposed to be averse thereto: not altogether, as is here believed, out of

Interest . . . ; but by reason of the trouble, and the fancied needlessness of the Work; and to prevent all danger from their slaves being furnish^d with knowledge, consequent, they conceive thereto.—*Hart, American History Told by Contemporaries*, vol. I, p. 299.

. . . Be it hereby further Declared and Enacted, by and with the Authority, Advice, and Consent aforesaid, That no Negro or Negroes, by receiving the Holy Sacrament of Baptism, is thereby manumitted or set free, nor hath any Right or Title to Freedom or Manumission, more than he or they had before; any Law, Usage, or Custom to the contrary notwithstanding.—*Hening's Statutes of Virginia*, 1715, ch. 44, sec. 24.

Be it further Enacted, . . . That for every Negro imported into this Province, either by Land or Water, the Importer or Importers of such Negro or Negroes shall pay unto the said Naval Officer aforesaid, the Sum of Twenty Shillings Sterling per Poll . . . —*Ibid*, 1715, ch. 36, sec. 8.

Be it therefore Enacted, . . . , That from and after the End of this present Session of Assembly, No Negro, or Mulatto Slave, Free Negro, or Mulatto born of a White Woman, during his Time of Servitude by Law, or any Indian Slave, or Free Indian Natives of this or the neighboring Provinces, be admitted and received as good and valid Evidence in Law, in any Matter or Thing whatsoever, . . . , wherein any Christian White Person is concerned.—*Ibid*, 1717, ch. 13, sec. 2.

[1765.] Be it Enacted, . . . , That the Justices of the several and respective County Courts within this Province, be, and they are hereby impowered and required, . . . , to appoint the Constable of every Hundred, where the said Justices, at their Discretion, shall think proper and expedient, to suppress the Assembling and tumultuous Meeting of Negroes and other Slaves; . . . —*Hening, Statutes of Virginia*.

[1725.] XI. And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Master or Mistress of any Negroe shall hereafter, for any Reward, Sum or Sums of Money, stipulated and agreed upon betwixt them, or upon any Pretence whatsoever, permit or suffer his or their Negroes to ramble about, under Pretence of getting Work, nor give Liberty to their Negroes to seek

their own Employ, and so go to work at their own Wills, under the Penalty of Twenty Shillings for every such Offence -- *Acts of Pennsylvania*.

[1792] V. No negro or mulatto shall be a witness, except in pleas of the Commonwealth against negroes or mulattoes, or in civil pleas, where negroes or mulattoes alone shall be parties

VI. No slave shall go from the tenements of his master or other person with whom he lives, without a pass or some letter or token, whereby it may appear that he is proceeding by authority from his master, employer, or overseer. . . .

XI. Riots, routs, unlawful assemblies, trespasses and seditious speeches by a slave or slaves, shall be punished by stripes . . . -- *Acts of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, Printed by A. Davis, 1794, pp. 196, 197*

[1793.] II. Be it enacted by the General Assembly, That from and after the passing of this act, every free negro or mulatto, who resides in, or is employed to labour within the limits of any city, borough, or town, shall be registered and numbered in a book to be kept for that purpose by the clerk of the said city, borough, or town, which register shall specify his or her age, name, colour and stature, by whom, and in what court the said negro or mulatto was emancipated, or that such negro or mulatto was born free. *Ibid, p. 327.*

[1687, New York.] . . . This I observe that they take no care of the conversion of their Slaves. -- *Hart, vol. I, p. 548.*

[1650, New York.] There are, also, various other negroes in this country, some of whom have been made free for their long service, but their children have remained slaves, though it is contrary to the laws of every people that anyone born of a Christian mother should be a slave and be compelled to remain in servitude. *Ibid, p. 545.*

[Rev. John McDowell said in 1762 concerning North Carolina]: We have but few families in this parish, but of the best in the province, viz. His Excellency the Governor, His Honor the President, some of the honorable Council, Col. Dry, the Collector, and about 20 other good families, who have each of them great gangs of slaves. We have in all about 200 families. -- *Cited in J. H. U. Studies, 1896, p. 193.*

Every freeman of Carolina shall have absolute power and authority over negro slaves of what opinion and religion whatsoever — *Ibid.*, p. 27.

Be it further enacted, That if any master, or owner of negroes, or slaves, or any other person or persons whatsoever in the government shall permit or suffer any negro or negroes to build on their or either of their lands or any part thereof any house under pretense of a meeting house upon account of worship or upon any pretense whatsoever, and shall not suppress and hinder them, he, she, or they so offending shall for every default forfeit or pay fifty pounds, one-half towards defraying the contingent charges of the government, the other to him or them that shall sue for the same. — *Ibid.*, p. 50.

That there were those during these years who held different views from those manifested in these laws may be seen from the following extracts. JONATHAN EDWARDS the younger said:

"To hold a man in a state of slavery, is to be, every day, guilty of robbing him of his liberty, or of man stealing." — *Cited in Goodell, Slavery and Anti-Slavery*, p. 28.

The town meeting of Danbury, Connecticut, in 1774, passed the following resolution:

"We cannot but think it a palpable absurdity so loudly to complain of attempts to Enslave us while we are actually Enslaving others." — *American Archives*, vol. I, p. 1038.

The Friends, in their annual meetings, give us their views in the following resolutions:

[1696, Advised the members to] be careful not to encourage the bringing in of any more negroes, and that those who have negroes be careful of them, bring them to meetings, have meetings with them in their families, restrain them from loose and lewd living, as much as in them lies, and from rambling abroad, on First days or other times.

[1774.] All members concerned in importing, selling, purchasing, giving or transferring negroes or

other slaves, or otherwise acting in such a manner as to continue them in slavery beyond the term limited by law or custom [for whites] was directed to be excluded fr. membership or disowned.

[1776.] It was enacted by the same meeting That the owners of slaves, who refused to execute proper instruments for giving them their freedom, were to be disowned likewise.—*Goodell*, pp. 35, 36.

In the Virginia convention of 1774 to choose delegates to the Philadelphia convention. Jefferson laid before it an exposition of the rights of British America. A part was as follows:

The abolition of domestic slavery is the great object of desire in those colonies where it was unhappily introduced in their infant state. But previous to the enfranchisement of the slaves, it is necessary to exclude all further importations from Africa; Yet our repeated attempts to effect this by prohibitions, and by imposing duties which might amount to a prohibition, have been hitherto defeated by his Majesty's negative; Thus preferring the immediate advantage of a few African [British] corsairs, to the lasting interests of the American States, and to the rights of human nature deeply wounded by this infamous practice.—*Jefferson, Works*, vol. I (*Ford*), p. 440.

The convention actually

Resolved, We will neither ourselves import nor purchase any slave or slaves imported by any other person after the 1st day of November next [1774], either from Africa, the W. Indies, or any other place.—*Ib.*, p. 687.

The North Carolina Provincial Convention of the same year

Resolved, That we will not import any slave or slaves, or purchase any slave or slaves imported or brought into the province by others, from any part of the world after the first day of Nov. next.—*Ib.*, p. 735.

The first General Congress, in 1774, passed the following Articles of Association:

We do, for ourselves and the inhabitants of the sev-

eral Colonies whom we represent, firmly agree and associate, as follows: . . .

2. We will neither import nor purchase, any slave imported after the first day of December next; after which time, we will wholly discontinue the slave trade, and will neither be concerned in it ourselves, nor will we hire our vessels, nor sell our commodities or manufactures, to those who are concerned in it.

11. That a committee be chosen in every county, city, and town, by those who are qualified to vote for representatives in the legislature, whose business it shall be attentively to observe the conduct of all persons touching this association; and when it shall be made to appear, to the satisfaction of a majority of any such committee, that any person within the limits of their appointment has violated this association, that such majority do forthwith cause the truth of the case to be published in the gazette; to the end, that all such foes to the rights of British-America may be publicly known and universally condemned as the enemies of American liberty; and thenceforth we respectively will break off all dealings with him or her.

14. And we do further agree and resolve that we will have no trade, commerce, dealings or intercourse whatsoever, with any colony or province, in N. Amer., which shall not accede to or who shall hereafter violate this association, but will hold them as unworthy of the rights of freemen and as inimical to the liberties of this country.—*Journal of Congress, vol. I, 23 f.*

The representatives of the Darien district, in Georgia, in 1775, resolved:

"To show the world that we are not influenced by any contracted or interested motives, but a general philanthropy for all mankind, of whatever climate, language, or complexion, we hereby declare our disapprobation and abhorrence of the unnatural practice of slavery in America (however the uncultivated state of our country, or other specious arguments may plead for it,) a practice founded in injustice and cruelty, and highly dangerous to our liberties (as well as lives,)

debasement part of our fellow-creatures below men, and corrupting the virtue and morals of rest, and is laying the basis of that liberty we contend for, (and which we pray the Almighty to continue to the latest posterity,) upon a very wrong foundation. We, therefore, Resolve, at all times to use our utmost endeavors for the manumission of our slaves in this colony, upon the most safe and equitable footing for the master and themselves."—*Am. Archives*, vol. I, p. 1136.

The Declaration of Independence as originally drafted contained the following clause:

he has waged cruel war against human nature itself, violating it's most sacred rights of life & liberty in the persons of a distant people who never offended him, captivating & carrying them into slavery in another hemisphere, or to incur miserable death in their transportation thither. this piratical warfare, the opprobrium of *infidel* powers, is the warfare of the *Christian* king of Great Britain determined to keep open a market where MEN should be bought & sold he has prostituted his negative for suppressing every legislative attempt to prohibit or to restrain this execrable commerce: and that this assemblage of horrors might want no fact of distinguished die, he is now exciting those very people to rise in arms among us, and to purchase that liberty of which *he* has deprived them, by murdering the people upon whom *he* also obtruded them: thus paying off former crimes committed against the *liberties* of one people, with crimes which he urges them to commit against the *lives* of another. —*Jefferson, Works*, vol. II (*Ford*), p. 51, Facsimile.

Jefferson's draft of the Ordinance of 1784 for the government of the territories of the United States contained this clause in relation to slavery:

After the year 1800 of the Christian era there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary Servitude in any of the said States, otherwise than in punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been convicted to be personally guilty.

The Ordinance of 1787, which provided for the

government of the northwest territory, had this provision in regard to the subject under consideration:

Art. VI. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted; . . .

JEFFERSON, in his "Notes on Virginia," in 1782, discusses the subject as follows:

"There must doubtless be an unhappy influence on the manners of our people produced by the existence of slavery among us. The whole commerce between master and slave is a perpetual exercise of the most boisterous passions, the most unremitting despotism, on the one part, and degrading submissions on the other. Our children see this, and learn to imitate it; for man is an imitative animal. . . . If a parent could find no motive either in his philanthropy or his self-love for restraining the intemperance of passion towards his slave, it should always be a sufficient one that his child is present. But generally it is not sufficient. The parent storms, the child looks on, catches the lineaments of wrath, puts on the same airs in the circle of smaller slaves, gives a loose to the worst of passions, and thus nursed, educated, and daily exercised in tyranny, cannot but be stamped by it with odious peculiarities. The man must be a prodigy who can retain his manners and morals undepraved by such circumstances. And with what execration should the statesman be loaded, who, permitting one-half of the citizens thus to trample on the rights of the other, transforms those into despots, and these into enemies, destroys the morals of the one and the *amor patriæ* of the other! . . . With the morals of the people their industry also is destroyed. . . . And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure, when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are of the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed, I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever; that considering numbers,

nature, and natural means only, a revolution of the wheel of Fortune, an exchange of situation, is among possible events, that it may become probable by supernatural interference! The Almighty has no attribute which can take side with us in such a contest."—*Works, vol. III (Ford), pp. 266-7.*

The following letters from Jefferson will show how he felt in regard to the institution of slavery:

To DR. PRICE, encouraging him and praising the spirit of a pamphlet against slavery, 1785:

Southward of the Chesapeak it will find but few readers concurring with it in sentiment on the subject of slavery. From the mouth to the head of the Chesapeak, the bulk of the people will approve it in theory, and it will find a reputable minority ready to accept it in practice, a minority which for weight and worth of character preponderates against the greatest number, who have not the courage to divest their families of a property which however keeps their conscience unquiet. Northward of the Chesapeak you may find here and there an opponent to your doctrine or you may find here and there a robber and a murderer, but in no greater number. . . . In a few years there will be no slaves Northward of Maryland. In Maryland I do not find such a disposition to begin the redress of this enormity as in Virginia. This is the next state to which we may turn our eyes for the interesting spectacle of justice in conflict with avarice and oppression.—*Works, vol. IV (Ford), pp. 82-3.*

To M. DE MEUSTIER, January 24, 1786:

I conjecture there are 650,000 negroes in the 5 Southernmost states, and not 50,000 in the rest. In most of these latter effectual measures have been taken for their future emancipation. In the former, nothing is done toward that. The disposition to emancipate them is strongest in Virginia. Those who desire it, form, as yet, the minority of the whole state, but it bears a respectable proportion to the whole in numbers and weight of character, and is continually recruiting by the addition of nearly the whole of the young men as fast as they come into public life. I flatter myself

it will take place there at some period of time not very distant. In Maryland and N. Carolina a very few are disposed to emancipate. In S. Carolina and Georgia not the smallest symptoms of it, but, on the contrary these 2 states and N. Carolina continue importations of negroes.—*Ibid*, pp. 145-6.

TO M. DE MEUSTIER, 1786:

What a stupendous, what an incomprehensible machine! Who can endure toll, famine, stripes, imprisonment and death itself in vindication of his own liberty, and the next moment be deaf to all those motives whose power supported him thro' his trial, and inflict on his fellow men a bondage, one hour of which is fraught with more misery than ages of that which he rose in rebellion to oppose. But we must await with patience the workings of an overruling providence. I hope that that is preparing the deliverance of these, our suffering brethren. When the measure of their tears shall be full, when their groans shall have involved heaven itself in darkness, doubtless a God of justice will awaken to their distress, and by diffusing light and liberality among their oppressors, or at length by his exterminating thunder, manifest his attention to the things of this world, and that they are not left to the guidance of a blind fatality."—*Ibid*, p. 185.

TO ST. GEORGE TUCKER, August 28, 1797,

[subscribes to emancipation]. and to the mode of emancipation, I am satisfied that that must be a matter of compromise between the passions, the prejudices, and the real difficulties which will each have their weight in that operation. Perhaps the first chapter of this history, which has begun in St. Domingo . . . may prepare our minds for a peaceable accommodation between justice, policy and necessity; and furnish an answer to the difficult question, whither shall the colored emigrants go? and the sooner we put some plan underway, the greater hope there is that it may be permitted to proceed peaceably to it's ultimate effect. But if something is not done and soon done, we shall be the murderers of our own children.—*Ibid*, vol. VII, pp. 167-8.

TO EDWARD COLES, 1814:

[His views] have long since been in possession of the public, and time has only served to give them stronger proof. The love of justice and the love of country plead equally the cause of these people, and it is a mortal reproach to us that they should have pleaded so long in vain. . . . The hour of emancipation is advancing in the march of time. It will come and whether brought on by the generous energy of our own minds or by the bloody process of St. Domingo . . . is a leaf in our history not yet turned over. . . . I have seen no proposition so expedient, on the whole, as that of emancipation of those born after a given day. . . . This enterprise . . . shall have all my prayers.

Washington speaks in no uncertain words in regard to his desires and intentions:

TO ROBT. MORRIS, April 12, 1786:

I can only say that there is not a man living who wishes more sincerely than I do to see a plan adopted for the abolition of it [slavery]; but there is only one proper and effectual mode in which it can be accomplished, and that is by legislative authority; and this, so far as my suffrage will go, shall never be wanting.—*Works, vol. IX (Sparks), p. 158.*

TO JOHN F. MERCER, September 9, 1786:

I never mean, unless some particular circumstances should compel me to it, to possess another slave by purchase, it being among my first wishes to see some plan adopted, by which slavery in this country may be abolished by law.—*Ib., p. —.*

Washington, by his will, freed all his slaves.

WILLIAM PINCKNEY, in Maryland House of Delegates, 1789, says:

Iniquitous and most dishonorable to Maryland, is that dreary system of partial bondage which her laws have hitherto supported with a solicitude worthy of a better object and her citizens, by their practice, countenanced. Founded in a disgraceful traffic, to which the present country lent its fostering aid, from

motives of interest, but which even she would have disdained to encourage, had England been the destined mart of such inhuman merchandize, its continuance is as shameful as its origin.—*Elliot's Debates*, vol. —, p. —.

JOHN JAY says:

Till America comes into this measure [abolition] her progress to Heaven will be impious. This is a strong expression but it is just. I believe that God is just, and I believe it to be a maxim in His, as in other courts, that those who ask equity ought to do it.—*Letter from Spain, 1780, Goodell, p. 30.*

THE SLAVE COMPROMISES IN THE CONSTITUTION.

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, . . . three-fifth of all other Persons.—*The Constitution, art. I, sec. 2, cl. 3.*

On the above article of the Constitution a long debate took place in the Constitutional Convention. Various opinions in regard to its merits were expressed by the members of the convention. The following extracts will well illustrate the general trend of the debate.

GERRY (MASS.): Why should the blacks, who were property in the South, be in the rule of representation more than the cattle and horses in the North?

PINCKNEY (S. C.): . . . He thought the blacks ought to stand on an equality with the whites; but would agree to the ratio settled by Congress.

BUTLER (S. C.) insisted that the labor of a slave in South Carolina was as productive and valuable as that of a free man in Massachusetts; that as wealth was the great means of defence and utility to the nation, they were equally valuable to it with freemen; and that consequently an equal representation ought to be allowed for them in a government which was instituted principally for the protection of property, and was itself to be supported by property.

WILSON (PA.) did not well see on what principle the admission of blacks in the proportion of three-fifths could be explained. Are they admitted as citizens—then why not admitted on an equality with white citizens? Are they admitted as property—then why not all other property? . . .

RANDOLPH (VA.): He urged strenuously that express security ought to be provided for including slaves in the ratio of representation. He lamented that such a species of property existed. But as it did exist, the holders of it would require this security. It was perceived that the design was entertained by some of excluding slaves altogether; the Legislature therefore ought not to be left at liberty.

PINCKNEY (S. C.) reminded the committee that if the convention should fail to insert some security to the Southern States against an emancipation of slaves, . . . he should be bound by duty to his state to vote against their report.

ROGER SHERMAN (CONN.) did not regard the admission of the negroes into the ratio of representation, as liable to such insuperable objections. It was the free-men of the Southern States who were, in fact, to be represented according to the taxes paid by them, and the negroes are only included in the estimate of the taxes. . . .—*The Madison Papers*, pp. 148, 302, 324, 332, 336, 418, 480.

The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a Tax or duty may be imposed on such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.—*The Constitution*, art. I, sec. 9, cl. 1.

On this clause again a long debate ensued:

RUTLEDGE (S. C.): . . . Religion and humanity had nothing to do with this question. Interest alone is the governing principle with nations. The true question at present is, whether the Southern States shall or shall not be parties to the Union. If the Northern States consult their interest, they will not oppose the increase of Slaves, which will increase the commodities of which they will have become the carriers.

ELLSWORTH (CONN.) was for leaving the clause as it stands. Let every State import what it pleases. The morality or wisdom of slavery are considerations belonging to the States themselves. What enriches a part enriches the whole, and the States are the best judges of their particular interests.

PINCKNEY (S. C.): South Carolina can never receive the plan if it prohibits the slave trade.

SHERMAN (CONN.): He disapproved of the slave trade, yet as the States were now possessed of the right to import slaves, and as the *public good* did not require it to be taken from them . . . he thought it best to leave the matter as we find it. He observed that the abolition of slavery seemed to be going on in the United States, and that the good sense of the several States would probably by degrees complete it, . . .

MASON (VA.). This infamous traffic originated in the avarice of British merchants. . . . The evil of having slaves was experienced during the late war, . . . Maryland and Virginia had already prohibited the importation of slaves. . . . All this would be in vain, if South Carolina and Georgia be at liberty to import. . . . The Western people are already calling out for slaves for their new lands; and will fill that country with slaves, if they can be got through South Carolina and Georgia. . . .

BALDWIN (GA.): . . . Georgia could not give up this one of her favorite prerogatives. If left to herself she may probably put a stop to the evil. . . .

WILLIAMSON (N. C.): . . . He thought the Southern States could not be members of the Union if the clause should be rejected.

KING (MASS.): If Southern States would not confederate with the tax on slaves imported, so he thought Northern would not if this clause were omitted.

RUTLEDGE (S. C.): If the convention thinks North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia will ever agree to the plan, unless their right to import be untouched, the expectation is vain. The people of those States will never be such fools as to give up so important an interest.

MADISON (VA.): Twenty years will produce all the mischief that can be apprehended from the liberty to import slaves. So long a time will be more dishonour-

ble to the American character than to say nothing about it in the constitution. . . .

He thought it wrong to admit in the constitution the idea that there could be property in men.—*The Madison Papers*, pp. 577, 578, 581, 582, 608, 610.

A few extracts from speeches made in the State conventions to consider the adoption of the constitution throw still more light on the views prevailing at the time.

JAS. WILSON (Pa.):

I consider this clause as laying the foundation for banishing slavery out of this country; and though the period is more distant than I could wish it, it will produce the same kind, gradual change as was produced in Pennsylvania. . . . The new States which are to be formed will be under *the control* of Congress in this particular, and slavery will never be introduced among them.—*Elliot's Debates*, vol. II, p. 452.

GEN. HEATH (Mass.):

The migration or importation, etc., is confined to the States now *existing only*; new States cannot claim it. Congress by their ordinance for erecting new States some time since, declared that the new States shall be republican, and that there shall be no slavery in them.—*Ib.*, vol. II, p. 115.

JOHNSON (Va.):

They tell us they see a progressive danger of bringing about emancipation. The principle has begun since the Revolution. Let us do what we will, it will come round. Slavery has been the foundation of much of that rapacity and dissipation which have been so much disseminated among our countrymen. If it were totally abolished, it would do much good.—*Ib.*, vol. III, pp. 6-48.

GOVR. RANDOLPH (Va.):

I hope there are none here who, . . . will advance an objection dishonorable to Virginia, that, at the moment they are receiving the rights of their citizens, there is a spark of hope that those unfortunate men now held in bondage may, by the operation of the general government, be made free.—*Ib.*, vol. III, p. 598.

PATRICK HENRY (Va.)

[argued for] the power of Congress . . . to abolish slavery in the States. Another thing will contribute to bring this event about. Slavery is detested. We feel its effects. We deplore it with all the pity of humanity.—*Ib.* vol. III, p. 463.

On the presentation of the Quaker memorial on slave trade to the House of Representatives, March, 1790, JACKSON (Ga.), said:

The situation of the slaves here, their situation in their native states, and the disposal of them in case of emancipation, should be considered. That slavery was an evil habit he did not mean to controvert; but that habit was already established, and there were peculiar situations in countries which rendered that habit necessary. Such situations the states of South Carolina and Georgia were in: large tracts of the most fertile lands on the continent remained uncultivated for the want of population. It was frequently advanced on the floor of Congress how unhealthy those climates were, and how impossible it was for northern constitutions to exist there. What, he asked, is to be done with this uncultivated territory? Is it to remain a waste? Is the rice trade to be banished from our coasts? Are Congress willing to deprive themselves of the revenue arising from that trade, and which is daily increasing, and to throw this great advantage in the hands of other countries? . . .—*Annals*, vol. II, pp. 1197-1205.

Eight years later the territory of Mississippi was organized. On motion to strike out the clause protecting slavery in the territory, MR. HARPER (S. C.), said:

In the Northwest Territory the regulation forbidding slavery was a very proper one, as the people inhabiting that part of the country were from parts where slavery did not prevail, and they had of course no slaves amongst them; but in the Miss. Territory . . . that species of property already exists, and persons emigrating there from the Southern States would carry with them property of this kind. To agree to such a propo-

sition would, therefore, be a decree of banishment to all the persons settled there and of exclusion to all those intending to go there . . . it struck at the habits and customs of the people.—*Berton's Debates*, vol. II, p. 221 f.

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Slavery is an evil we have long deplored but cannot cure; it was entailed upon us by our ancestors; it was not our original sin, and we cannot, in our present situation, release ourselves from the embarrassment; and, as it is an evil, the more diffusive, the lighter it will be felt, and the wider it is extended the more equal the proportion of inconvenience.—*Annals*, vol. XXXIV, p. 1226.

MOLANE (Delaware):

The fixing of a line on the West of the Miss., north of which slavery should not be tolerated had always

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If we meet upon principles of reciprocity we cannot fail to do justice to all. It has already been avowed by gentlemen . . . from the South and the West that they will agree upon a line which shall divide the slaveholding from the non-slaveholding states. It is this proposition I am anxious to effect; but I wish to effect it by some compact which shall be binding upon all parties, and all subsequent legislatures; which cannot be changed and will not fluctuate with the diversity of feeling and of sentiment to which this Empire in its course must be destined.—*Ib.*, p. 1227 f.

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WEITMAN (Mass.):

In the degree in which you increase the proportion of the free beyond that of the slave population, in the same ratio you increase the chance for emancipation, final and total. . . . The best mode, . . . to promote the cause of a final emancipation would be to suffer the slaves to be scattered thinly over the western States. The permission of slavery in the Territory of Arkansas will afford no additional facilities to the introduction of this unfortunate race from abroad. The natural increase will be the same whether in one part of the Union or the other; or if it would be greater in the Western country, it would be the consequence of an ameliorated condition and therefore not to be regretted.—*Annals*, vol. XXXIV, pp. 1274-5.

Why may we not continue in this way, admitting states off against the non-slaveholding states westerly, with the restriction, and off against the slaveholding States without it? True, sectional lines are to be abhorred: But we have them in relation to this subject already. The line [of the Ohio] is distinctly marked. . . . Having so begun we must continue on.—*Ib.*, p. 1278.

JEFFERSON writes:

[1820.] The coincidence of a marked principle, moral and political, with geographical lines, once conceived, I feared would never more be obliterated from the mind; that it would be recurring on every occasion and renewing irritations, until it would kindle such mutual and mortal hatred as to render separation preferable to eternal discord. I have been among the most sanguine in believing that our Union would be of long duration. I now doubt it much.—*Jefferson, Works*, vol. VII (Washington ed.), p. 158.

QUESTIONS.

1. Were negroes subject to military service? 2. What does this imply in regard to their position?
3. Were there many negroes in the north? 4. Why the law against the negroes being abroad at night?
5. How long had they been away from Africa at this time? 6. Why did they question whether the negro

should be Christianized? 7. How did they settle the matter? 8. How about their right to testify? 9. Why do you suppose such a law was passed? 10. Why the acts against assembling of negroes? 11. Make a list of the states that had harsh laws against the negro. 12. Why such laws? 13. Who first began to oppose slavery? 14. What reasons given? 15. Write an essay on the subject of slavery in the colonies. 16. What change of tone at the beginning of the Revolution? 17. From what section does the greatest opposition come? 18. How do you explain the change? 19. Who did they blame for the slave trade? 20. Did they stop it? 21. How were they going to try to stop it? 22. How did Jefferson feel on the subject? 23. Collect all the thoughts you can from Jefferson on the subject. 24. In 1785 how, according to Jefferson, was slavery regarded north of the Potomac? 25. How did the leaders in Virginia feel about emancipation? 26. Did Jefferson predict truthfully in regard to future? 27. Make an outline to show the views, plans, and predictions of Jefferson. 28. What other men opposed? 29. What were their arguments? 30. What do you believe to be the cause of such a radical revolution in thought? 31. Name the compromises in the constitution. 32. Give their terms. 33. Any change in tone in discussion from that of writings just quoted? 34. What does the change mean? 35. What section is strongest against slavery and the slave trade? 36. Write an essay on slavery in the constitution, including therein the debates. 37. Trace the character of the arguments in congress. 38. Gather all the moral arguments you can. 39. Do both sides use them? 40. Note all the industrial points in the arguments. 41. Which side uses such arguments most effectively? 42. What is the political argument? 43. Compare the feeling of 1775 and that of 1820. 44. Mark all the changes. 45. Which section has changed most? 46. What predictions do Adams and Jefferson make about 1820? 47. What is their argument? 48. Did they prove to be correct? 49. Jefferson's thought on compromise of 1820? 50. Write essay on whole subject.



SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES

II.

Abolitionists arise about 1830. William Lloyd Garrison, Wendell Phillips, Sumner, among leaders. Abolition societies 1832-40 strongest. Enter national politics, 1840. Struggle over "incendiary" mail matter, 1835-37; Right of petition, 1836-44; Annexation of Texas, 1843-45; control of territories, 1820, 1846-50 1854. Compromises, 1820, 1833, 1850. "Wilmot Proviso" issue, 1846-48. Kansas-Nebraska bill, 1854. Dred Scott decision, 1857. Election of Lincoln against slave extension, 1860. Secession, 1860-61. War, 1861-65.

CHAPTER VII

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I FOUND it utterly impossible to handle the subject of slavery in a satisfactory manner in one article; and it must be confessed that two numbers even do hardly more than touch the abundance of interesting and valuable matter that lies at hand.

In the last number we had just reached the moment when this question began to absorb a large part of the thought of the American people. This article begins with the struggle over the "Incendiary Publications" and the "Right of Petition," of which J. Q. Adams was the hero, and ends with the inauguration of Lincoln.

The next number will deal with the Civil War and Reconstruction.

J. Q. ADAMS writes, 1820:

Slavery is the great and foul stain upon the North American Union, and it is a contemplation worthy of the most exalted soul whether its total abolition is or is not practicable: If practicable by what means it may be effected, and if a choice of means be within the scope of the object, what means would accomplish it at the smallest cost of human suffering. A dissolution, at least temporary, of the Union, as now constituted, would be certainly necessary, and the dissolution must be upon a point involving the question of slavery, and no other. The Union might then be organized on the fundamental principle of emancipation. The object is vast in its compass, awful in its prospects, sublime and beautiful in its issue, a life devoted to it would be nobly spent or sacrificed.—*J. Q. Adams, Memoirs, vol. IV, p. 531.*

If slavery be the destined sword in the hand of the

destroying angel which is to sever the ties of this Union, the same sword will cut in sunder the bonds of slavery itself. A dissolution of the Union for the cause of slavery would be followed by a servile war in the slave-holding States combined with a war between the two severed portions of the Union. It seems to me that its result must be the extermination of slavery from this whole continent; and, calamitous and desolating as this course of events in its progress must be, so glorious would be its final issue, that as God shall judge me, I do not say that it is not to be desired.

Never since human sentiments and human conduct were influenced by human speech was there a theme for eloquence like the free side of this question. . . . Oh, if but one man could arise with a genius capable of communicating those eternal truths that belong to this question, to lay bare in all its nakedness that outrage upon the goodness of God, human slavery; now is the time and this is the occasion, upon which such a man would perform the duties of an angel upon earth. —*Ibid.*, vol. V, p. 210.

HAYNE speaks on the Panama mission in the United States senate, March, 1826, in these prophetic words:

The question of slavery is one, in all its bearings of extreme delicacy; and concerning which I know of but a single wise and safe rule, either for the states in which it exists or for the Union. It must be considered and treated entirely as a domestic question. With respect to foreign nations, the language of the United States ought to be, that it concerns the peace of our own political family, and therefore we cannot permit it to be touched; and in respect to the slaveholding states, the only safe and constitutional ground on which they can stand is, that they will not permit it to be brought into question, either by their sister states or by the federal government. It is a matter for ourselves. To touch it at all, is to violate our most sacred rights—to put in jeopardy our dearest interests—the peace of our country—the safety of our families, our altars, and our firesides. . . . On the slave question my opinion is this: I consider our rights in that species of property as not even open to discussion, either here or elsewhere; and in respect to our duties, (imposed by our situation,)

we are not to be taught them by fanatics, religious, or political. To call into question our rights, is grossly to violate them; to attempt to instruct us on this subject is to insult us; to dare to assail our institutions, is wantonly to invade our peace. Let me solemnly declare, once for all, that the Southern States never will permit, and never can permit, any interference whatever in their domestic concerns; and that the very day on which the unhallowed attempt shall be made by the authorities of the federal government, we will consider ourselves as driven from the Union. Let the consequences be what they may, they never can be worse than such as must inevitably result from suffering a rash and ignorant interference with our domestic peace and tranquillity. But . . . I apprehend no such violation of our constitutional rights. I believe that this house is not disposed and that the great body of our intelligent and patriotic fellow-citizens in the other states have no inclination whatever to interfere with us. . . . If we are true to ourselves we shall have nothing to fear.—*Benton*.

By 1831 the raising of slaves in the northern states for market had become a recognized industry, as may be seen from the following letters and speeches:

HENRY CLAY, in an address before the Kentucky Colonization Society in 1829, said:

It is believed that nowhere in the United States would slave labor be generally employed, if the proprietor was not tempted to raise slaves by the high price of the Southern market, which keeps it up in his own . . . *Ibid*, p. 257.

PROF. DEW, president of William and Mary college, in reviewing the debates in the Virginia constitutional convention, in 1831 2, said of the domestic slave trade:

A full equivalent being thus left in the place of the slave, this immigration becomes an advantage to the State, and does not check the black population . . . because it furnishes every inducement to the master to attend to the negroes, to encourage breeding, and to

cause the greatest number possible to be raised. . . .
Virginia is in fact a negro-raising State for other States.
—Goodell, p. 250.

CHAS. F. MERCER, in the Virginia constitutional convention of 1829, said:

The tables of the *natural* growth of the slave population demonstrate, when compared with the [actual] increase of its numbers in the Commonwealth for 20 yrs. past, that an annual revenue of not less than a million and a half of dollars is derived from the exportation of a part of this population.—*Ibid*, p. 250.

MR. GHOLSON, in the Virginia legislature, January 18, 1831

[Claimed the right of] the owner of brood mares to their product, and of the owner of female slaves to their increase. The legal maxim of *partus sequitur ventrem* is coeval with the existence of the right of property itself, and is founded in wisdom and justice. It is on the justice and inviolability of this maxim that the master foregoes the services of a female slave—has her nursed and raises the helpless infant offspring. The value of the property justifies the expense; and I do not hesitate to say that in its increase consists much of our wealth.—*Ibid*, p. 257.

Let us now see what views were held in regard to the printing and disseminating of abolition literature by 1835.

The South Carolina legislature passed this resolve in 1835:

Resolved, That the Legislature of South Carolina, having every confidence in the justice and friendship of the non-slaveholding States, announces her confident expectation, and she earnestly requests, that the Government of these States will promptly and effectually suppress all those associations within their respective limits, purporting to be abolition societies. . . .
Cited in Goodell, p. 413.

The North Carolina general assembly [1835]:

Resolved, That our sister States are respectfully requested to enact penal laws, prohibiting the printing.

within their respective limits, all such publications as may have a tendency to make our slaves discontented. *Ibid.*, p. 413.

The Alabama legislature [1836]:

Resolved, That we call upon our sister States, and respectfully request them to enact such penal laws as will finally put an end to the malignant deeds of the abolitionists.—*Ibid.*, p. 413.

Virginia legislature [1836]:

Resolved, That the non-slaveholding States of the Union are respectfully but earnestly requested promptly to adopt penal enactments or such other measures as will effectually suppress all associations within their respective limits purporting to be, or having the character of abolition societies.—*Ibid.*, p. 417.

On learning that the United States mails had been searched for "incendiary documents" at Charleston, South Carolina, on July 29, 1835, POSTMASTER-GENERAL AMOS KENDALL said:

By no act or direction of mine, official or private, could I be induced to aid, knowingly, in giving circulation to papers of this description, directly or indirectly. We owe an obligation to the laws, but a higher one to the communities in which we live, and if the former be permitted to destroy the latter, it is patriotism to disregard them. Entertaining these views I cannot sanction, and will not condemn, the step you have taken. Your justification must be looked for in the character of the papers detained and the circumstances by which you are surrounded.—*Ibid.*, p. 416.

PRESIDENT JACKSON, in his annual message, December, 1835, used these words in discussing the subject:

I would therefore call the special attention of Congress to the subject, and respectfully suggest the propriety of passing such a law as will prohibit under severe penalties, the circulation, in the Southern States, through the mail, of incendiary publications, intended to instigate the slaves to insurrection.

THE RIGHT OF PETITION.

KING (Ala.):

We were sent here to do the business of the public and not to set up arbitrary codes for the protection of our dignity, and then be left to determine what dignity means. I consider true senatorial dignity to consist in a straight-forward, independent discharge of our constitutional duties, and not in searching into the language employed by our constituents, when they ask us for a redress of grievances, to see if we cannot find some pretext to commit a fraud upon the constitution. *Baton, col. XII, p. 723*

BUCHANAN (Pa.):

Let it once be understood that the sacred right of petition and the cause of the abolitionists must rise or fall together, and the consequences may be fatal. . . . We have just as little right to interfere with slavery in the South as we have to touch the right of petition. . . . Can a republican government exist without it? . . . If the people have a constitutional right to petition, a corresponding duty is imposed upon us to receive their petitions. *Ibid, pp. 733 5.*

ADAMS:

[A discussion on petitions is bound to be merely] a discussion upon the merits of slavery. Sir, on such a discussion every speech made by a Representative from the north of Mason and Dixon's line, in this House, will be an incendiary pamphlet and what will you do with them? . . . The newspapers report these speeches; every speech is circulated through your whole country; and how can you arrest it? . . . Well, sir, you begin with suppressing the right of petition; you must next suppress the right of speech in this House; for you must offer a resolution that every member who dares to express a sentiment of this kind shall be expelled, or that speeches shall not go forth to the public—shall not be circulated. What will be the consequence then? You suppress the right of petition; you suppress the freedom of speech; the freedom of the press, and the freedom of religion; for, in the minds of many worthy, honest, and honorable men, fanatics, if you please so to call them, this is a re-

ligious question . . . and however erroneous may be their conclusions, it is not for me, nor for this House, to judge them.—*Ibid*, vol. XIII, pp. 9-10.

Calhoun was the great apostle of the south, and his words—the words of an honest man—will usually give us the very clearest insight into the thought of his section:

On the right of rejecting abolition petitions, although, in his opinion, one of the clearest that can be imagined, we of the South were, unfortunately for the peace of the country, in a minority. So, also, on the question of the constitutional right of abolishing slavery in this District and the Territories, and also on every other particular question which has been attempted to be raised on constitutional grounds, as a barrier to our rights and security. What remains, then, short of taking our protection into our own hands, but to find some barrier in the general character and structure of our political system? and where can we find that but in the view of the Constitution, which considers it as a compact between sovereign and independent States, formed for their mutual prosperity and security?

He saw (said Mr. C.) in the question before us the fate of the South. It was a higher than the mere naked question of master and slave. It involved a great political institution, essential to the peace and existence of one-half of this Union.

They were there inseparably united, beyond the possibility of separation. Experience had shown that the existing relation between them secured the peace and happiness of both. Each had improved; the inferior greatly; so much so, that it had attained a degree of civilization never before attained by the black race in any age or country. Under no other relation could they co-exist together. To destroy it was to involve a whole region in slaughter, carnage, and desolation; and, come what will, we must defend and preserve it.

This agitation has produced one happy effect at least; it has compelled us of the South to look into the nature and character of this great institution, and to correct many false impressions that even we had entertained in relation to it. Many in the South once be-

Heved that it was a moral and political evil; that folly and delusion are gone; we see it now in its true light and regard it as the most safe and stable basis for free institutions in the world.—*Congressional Globe*, vol. VI, pp. 29, 61-62.

. . . It is easy to see the end. By the necessary course of events, if left to themselves, we must become, finally, two peoples. It is impossible under the deadly hatred which must spring up between the two great sections, if the present causes are permitted to operate unchecked, that we should continue under the same political system. The conflicting elements would burst the Union asunder. . . . We of the South will not, cannot, surrender our institutions. . . . But let me not be understood as admitting, even by implication, that the existing relations between the two races in the slaveholding States is an evil, far otherwise; I hold it to be a good, as it has thus far proved itself to be to both, and will continue to prove so if not disturbed by the fell spirit of abolitionism [Discusses relations; then says:] But I take higher ground. I hold that in the present state of civilization, where two races of different origin, and distinguished by color, and other physical differences, as well as intellectual, are brought together, the relation now existing in the slaveholding States between the two, is, instead of an evil, a good a positive good.—*Calhoun, Works*, vol. II, pp. 629-30.

The various "Gag" rules, or rules to prevent the reception and discussion of petitions in regard to slavery, were passed as follows:

[Pinckney's of 5/26 1836. Adopted by 117 to 68 votes in House of Representatives]:

"Resolved, That all petitions, memorials, resolutions, and propositions relating, in any way, or to any extent, whatever, to the subject of slavery, shall, without being either printed or referred, be laid on the table, and no further action whatever shall be had thereon."

Hawes', 1/18/37: enacted by 115 to 47.

Patton's, 12/21 '37: enacted by 122 to 74.

Atherton's, 1/12 '38 enacted by 126 to 78.

Johnson's, 1/28/40. enacted by 114 to 108, and made a standing rule of the House till 1846.—*Goodell*, pp. 422-3.

William Lloyd Garrison and Wendell Phillips, as the leaders of the Abolitionists, speak in no uncertain tones, as the following extracts will show:

W. L. Garrison in Faneuil Hall, 1843.

Resolved, That the compact which exists between the North and the South is "a covenant with death and an agreement with hell"—involving both parties in atrocious criminality, and should be immediately annulled.

We cannot regard any man as a consistent abolitionist who, while holding to the popular construction of the Constitution, makes himself a party to that instrument, by taking any office under it requiring an oath, or voting for its support.

Resolutions of Wendell Phillips.

That the abolitionists of this country should make it one of the primary objects of their agitation, to dissolve the American Union; [and again] That secession from the present United States Government is the duty of every abolitionist; since no one can take office, or throw a vote for another to hold office, under the United States Constitution, without violating his anti-slavery principles, and rendering himself an abettor of the slaveholder in his sin.

W. L. Garrison, in an address to the Friends of Freedom in the United States, undertook a fresh declaration of its principles—first, as regards slavery:

That it ought to be immediately and forever abolished; and as regards the existing national compact, "That it is a covenant with death and an agreement with hell," and that henceforth, therefore, until slavery be abolished the watchword shall be NO UNION WITH SLAVEHOLDERS.

Continued—To accomplish this sublime resolution the Society registers its sacred pledge to continue its agitation on the above lines.—*Life and Writings of William Lloyd Garrison*, vol. III, pp. 88, 90, 100.

PLATFORMS.

Buffalo platform of Free Soil Party of 8-9-1848.

Resolved, That we . . . do plant ourselves upon

the National Platform of Freedom, in opposition to the Sectional Platform of Slavery.

Resolved, That slavery in the several States of this Union which recognize its existence, depends upon State laws alone, which cannot be repealed or modified by the Federal Government, and for which laws that Government is not responsible. We therefore propose no interference by Congress with slavery within the limits of any State.

Resolved, That . . . the entire history of that period [1784-7, etc.] clearly shows that it was the settled policy of the nation not to extend, nationalize, or encourage, but to limit, localize, and discourage slavery; and to this policy, which should never have been departed from, the Government ought to return. . .

Resolved, That we accept the issue which the slave power has forced upon us, and to their demand for more slave States, and more slave Territory, our calm but final answer is, No more slave States, and no more slave Territory. Let the soil of our extensive domains be ever kept free. . . .

From 1845 to 1850 the great question in congress was in regard to the nature of the power of government in the territories. The following extracts suggest several views:

If . . . that experiment [annexation of new soil] shall not prove successful, so as to disprove the asserted possibility of the co-existence of the two races and two colors, side by side, on the same soil, in a relation of freedom and equality of rights, how can any of the friends of either desire to keep them forcibly pent up within the States when every day is tending faster and faster to ferment the discordant elements into a result which threatens to be the dissolution of both—instead of opening this safety valve by which the noxious vapor may pass off harmlessly and insensibly?

Crowd then your population into the Southern States as you may, rapidly and without fear. Texas will open before it as an outlet, and slavery, retiring from the Middle and Southern States of the present confederacy, will find for a time a resting-place there. But only for a time. For the irresistible law of population which decrees that in a densely peopled region slavery shall

cease to exist, will emancipate Texas in her turn, and the negro will then pass to a land of political freedom and social dignity under a genial sky. He will pass without convulsion and leaving no domestic ruin in his path. As his labor becomes less and less valuable, emancipation, a gradual, progressive, at last universal, will pass him over the southern border to his own appropriate home in Mexico and the States beyond.—*Democratic Review*, vol. XXIII, p. 106, 1848.

RHETT (S. C.):

The Court declares that the territories belong to the United States. They are tenants in common, or joint proprietors and co-sovereigns over them. As co-sovereigns they have agreed in their common compact, the Constitution, that their agent, the General Government, "may dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations" with regard to them. but beyond this, they are not limited or limitable in their rights. Thus sovereignty, unalienated and unimpaired by this mutual concession to each other, exists in all its plenitude over our territories; as much so as within the limits of the States themselves. Yet there can be no conflict, for none of the States can make any "rules and regulations" separately within the territories, which may bring them in conflict. The "rules and regulations" prevailing will be made by all and obligatory on all, through their common agency, the government of the United States. The only effect and probably the only object of their reserved sovereignty is that it secures to each State the right to enter the territories with her citizens and settle and occupy them with their property—with whatever is recognized as property by each State. The ingress of the citizen is the ingress of his sovereign, who is bound to protect him in his settlement. . . . He is not responsible to any of the co-sovereigns for the nature of his property.—*Globe*, 29th Congress, Second Session, App., p. 246.

SENATOR BUTLER (S. C.):

His advice to his constituents would be, to go to these new territories with arms in their hands; to go as armed communities, and take possession of the lands which they had helped to acquire, and see who would attempt to dispossess them. . . . So help him God

he would so advise his constituents to take with them their property there and settle at all hazards.—*Globe*, 30th Congress, First Session, p. 1060.

CALHOUN (S. C.):

The separation of the North and South is completed. The South has now a most solemn obligation to perform—to herself—to the Constitution—to the Union. She is bound to come to a decision not to permit this to go on any further but to show that, dearly as she prizes the Union, there are questions which she regards as of greater importance than the Union.—*Ibid*, p. 107½.

WEBSTER (Mass.):

We certainly do not prevent them [Southern men] from going into these territories with what is in general law called property. But these States have by their local laws created a property in persons, and they cannot carry these local laws with them. . . . No man can be held as a slave, except the local law shall accompany him. *Ibid*, p. 1078.

DICKINSON (N. Y.):

That no conditions can be constitutionally imposed upon any territorial acquisition, inconsistent with the right of the people thereof to form a free, sovereign State, with the powers and privileges of the original members of the Confederacy, I deem too obvious for serious argument. Whatever laws Congress may constitutionally enact for the regulation of the territories of the United States are subject to be altered or repealed at pleasure. . . . Every State admitted to the Union from the moment of its admission, enjoys all the rights of sovereignty common to every other member of the Confederacy. . . . If any State is prohibited from [any of or] all the rights of every other then it is not . . . a sovereign State. . . . Every State after its admission, may, in virtue of its own sovereign power, establish or abolish this institution [slavery] whatever may have been the conditions imposed, or attempted to be imposed, upon it during its territorial existence.

Whatever power may or may not rest in Congress under the Constitution, that instrument could not take from the people of territories the right to prescribe their own domestic policy; nor has it attempted any such

office. . . . The republican theory teaches that sovereignty resides with the people of a State, and not with its political organization. . . . If sovereignty resides with the people and not with the organization, it rests as well with the people of a Territory, in all that concerns their internal condition as with the people of an organized State. . . . And if in this respect a form of government is proposed to them by the Federal Government, and adopted or acquiesced in by them, they may afterwards alter or abolish it at pleasure. Although the government of a Territory has not the same sovereign power as the government of a State in its political relations, the people of a Territory have, in all that appertains to their internal condition, the same sovereign rights as the people of a State.—*Ibid*, p. 83.

CALHOUN (S. C.):

The assumption [that the sovereignty resides in the inhabitants of the territories] is utterly unfounded, unconstitutional, without example, and contrary to the entire practice of the government from its commencement to the present time.—*Globe*, 31st Congress, First Session, p. 4514.

Compromise of 1850.

CLAY (Ky.):

It would not be possible to get twenty votes in the Senate, or a proportional vote in the House, Clay said, in favor of the *recognition* of slavery south of 36 degrees 30 minutes. "It is impossible. All that you can get—all that you can expect to get—all that was proposed at the last session—is action north of that line, and non-action as regards slavery south of that line. . . . It is better for the South, that there should be non-action as to slavery both north and south of the line—far better that there should be non-action both sides of the line, than that there should be action by the interdiction on the one side, without action for the admission upon the other side of the line."—*Globe*, vol. XXII, pt. I, p. 125.

WEBSTER (Mass.):

There is not at this moment, within the United States, or any territory of the United States, a single foot of land, the character of which in regard to its being free-soil territory or slave territory is not fixed

by some law, and some ir repealable law beyond the power of the action of this government.

What, then, have been the causes which have created so new a feeling in favor of slavery in the South—which have changed the whole nomenclature of the South on the subject and from being thought of and described in the terms I have mentioned . . . It has now become an institution, a cherished institution there; no evil, no scourge, but a great religious, social, and moral blessing, as I think I have heard it latterly described? I suppose this, sir, is owing to the sudden uprising and rapid growth of the cotton plantations of the South.—*Ibid*, p. 272.

DOUGLAS (Ill.):

You cannot fix bounds to the onward march of this great and growing country. You cannot fetter the limbs of a young giant. He will burst your chains. He will expand and grow, and increase, and extend civilization, Christianity, and liberal principles. Then, sir, if you cannot check the growth of the country in that direction, is it not the part of wisdom to look the danger in the face, and provide for an event you cannot avoid? I tell you, sir, you must provide for continuous lines of settlement from the Mississippi Valley to the Pacific Ocean. And in making this provision you must decide upon what principles the territory shall be organized; and in other words, whether the people shall be allowed to regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, according to the provisions of this bill, or whether the opposite doctrine of congressional interference is to prevail. Postpone it, if you will; but whenever you do act, this question must be met and decided.—*Sheahan's Life of Douglas*, p. 259.

SEWARD (N. Y.):

My position concerning legislative compromises is this, namely: personal, partizan, temporary, and subordinate questions, may lawfully be compromised; but principles can never be justly or wisely made the subjects of compromise. By principles I mean the elements in public questions of moral rights, political justice, and high national expediency. Does any honorable senator assert a different maxim on the subject of legislative compromise?

There is no peace in this world for compromisers; there is no peace for those who practice evasion; there is no peace in a republican land for any statesman but those who act directly, and boldly abide the popular judgment whenever it may be fairly and clearly and fully ascertained, without attempting to falsify the issue submitted, or to corrupt the tribunal.—*Works*, vol. IV, pp. 517, 611.

A. H. STEPHENS, to his brother Linton, 1850:

In the message received to-day you will see that the policy of General Taylor is that the people inhabiting the new acquisitions shall come into the Union as States, without the adoption of territorial governments. . . . But the bearing of this policy on the great questions of the day is a matter still to be considered. Will the Slavery question be settled in this way? I think not. My deliberate opinion at this time, or the opinion I have formed from the best lights before me, is that it will be the beginning of an end which will be the severance of the political bonds that unite the slave-holding and non-slaveholding States of this Union. I give you this view rather in opposition to the one I ventured to express on the evening of the 25th of December. I then looked to settlement and adjustment and a preservation of the Union; and as far as I then saw on the horizon, I think the opinion was correct. There will, perhaps, be a temporary settlement and a temporary quiet. But I have lately been taking a farther and a broader view of the future. When I look at the *causes* of the present discontent I am persuaded there will never again be harmony between the two great sections of the Union. When California and New Mexico and Oregon and Nebraska are admitted as States, then the majority in the Senate will be against us. The power will be with them to harass, annoy, and oppress. And it is a law of power to exert itself, as universal as it is a law of nature that nothing shall stand still. Cast your eye, then, a few years into the future, and see what images of strife are seen figuring on the boards! In the halls of Congress, nothing but debates about the crimes and the iniquity of slavery and the duty of the General Government to withhold all countenance of the unholy institution of human bondage. Can Southern men occupy seats in the halls of a Legislature with this

constant reproach? It is not reasonable. It is more than I expect. It is more than human nature can expect. The present crisis may pass; the present adjustment may be made; but the great question of the permanence of slavery in the Southern States will be far from being settled thereby. And, in my opinion, the crisis of that question is not far ahead. The very palliatives now so soothingly administered do but more speedily develop the stealthy disease which is fast approaching the vitals. . . . My opinion is that a dismemberment of this Republic is not among the improbabilities of a few years to come. In all my acts I shall look to that event. I shall do nothing to favor it or hasten, but I now consider it inevitable. . . . But I should not say much in *praise* of the Union. I see no hope to the South from the Union. . . . I do not believe much in resolutions, any way. . . . If I were now in the Legislature, I should introduce bills reorganizing the militia, for the establishment of a military school, the encouragement of the formation of volunteer companies, the creation of arsenals, of an armory, and an establishment for making gunpowder. In these lies our defence. I tell you the argument is exhausted; and if the South do not intend to be overrun with anti-slavery doctrines, they must, before no distant day, stand by their arms. My mind is made up; I am for the fight, if the country will back me. And if not we had better have no 'Resolutions,' and no gasconade. They will but add to our degradation. . . . My course shall be directed to the future. I shall regard with little interest the events of the intervening years. . . . One other thought. Could the South maintain a separate political organization? On this I have thought a great deal. It has been the most perplexing question to my mind. The result of my reflections is that she could, if her people be united. She would maintain her position, I think, better than the North. She has great elements of power.—*Johnston-Browne, Life of A. H. Stephens, pp. 243-5.*

THE EXCITING YEARS 1850-1860.

They threaten us with a great Northern party, and a general war upon the South. If they were not mere hucksters in politics—with only this peculiarity, that

every man offers himself, instead of some other commodity, for sale—we should surmise that they might do what they threaten, and thus bring out the real triumph of the South, by making a dissolution of the Union necessary.

But they will do no such thing. They will threaten and utter a world of swelling self-glorification, and end by knocking themselves down to the highest bidder. To be sure, if they could make the best bargain by destroying the South, they would set about it without delay. But they cannot. They live upon us, and the South affords them the double glorification of an object for hatred and a field for plunder. How far they may be moved to carry their indignation at this time it is impossible to say; but we may be sure they will cool off just at the point when they discover that they can make nothing more out of it, and may lose.—*Charleston Mercury*, Quoted by Redpath, *Echoes*, p. 460.

It is vain to disguise it, the great issue of our day in this country is, Slavery or no Slavery. The present phase of that issue is, the extension or non-extension of the institution, the foundations of which are broad and solid in our midst. Whatever the general measure—whatever the political combinations—whatever the party movement—whatever the action of sections at Washington, the one single, dominant, and pervading idea, solving all leading questions, insinuating itself into every policy, drawing the horoscope of all aspirants, serving as a lever or fulcrum for every interest, class and individuality a sort of directing fatality, is that master issue. As in despite of right and reason—of organisms and men—of interests and efforts, it has become *per se* political destiny—why not meet it? It controls the North, it controls the South it precludes escape. It is at last and simply a question between the South and the remainder of the Union, as sections and as people. All efforts to give it other direction, to solve it by considerations other than those which pertain to them in their local character and fates, to divest it, to confound it with objects and designs of a general nature, is [sic] rendered futile. It has to be determined by the real parties, by their action in their character as sections—inchoate countries. *Charleston Evening News*, Quoted in Redpath, p. 496.

The North has thus far carried the South on its

shoulders, and this it is bound to do in all time to come. It has purchased its lands, maintained the fleets and armies required for its purposes, and stood between it and the public opinion of the world while maintaining the value of its commodities and giving value to its labor and land. During the whole of this period it has borne unmeasured insolence, and has for the sake of peace, permitted its whole policy to be governed by a body of slaveholders amounting to but little more than a quarter of a million in number. It has made one compromise after another until at length the day of compromise has passed, and has given place to the day on which the South and the North—the advocates of Slave labor on the one side and Free labor on the other—are now to measure strength, and we trust it will be measured.—*Redpath, Echoes, p. 512.*

Falstaff was strong in words, but weak in action. So it is with the South, whose every movement betokens conscious weakness. For a quarter of a century past she has been holding conventions, at which it has been resolved that Norfolk, Charleston and Savannah *should* become great commercial cities, which obstinately they refuse to be. She has resolved upon all kinds of expedients for raising the price of cotton, which yet is lower by 1-3d. than it was ten years since. She has resolved to suppress discussion of slavery and the discussion is now more rife than ever before. She has resolved upon becoming strong and independent, but is now more dependent upon the forbearance of the world than in any time past. Under such circumstances, there need be small fear of her secession from the North, which has so long stood between her and ruin. The irritability of our Southern friends is evidence of conscious weakness, and while that irritability shall continue, the danger of dissolution will continue to be far distant.

The Union *must* be continued until at least the South shall have had the opportunity for taxing the North for the accomplishment of its projects *Until then the Union cannot be dissolved.* Such being the case, the real friend of the Union is he who opposes the annexation of Cuba and Hayti, and the extension of slavery; and the real disunionist is he who advocates compliance with Southern demands. Thus far, all the measures

adopted for the promotion of the Southern objects have been followed by increased abuse and increased threats of separation, and such will certainly be the case with all such future ones. To preserve the Union, it is required that the North shall insist on its rights. . . . The only real disunionists of the country, north of Mason and Dixon's line, are the political dough-faces, like Pierce, Douglas, and Richardson, and the commercial doughfaces . . . who sell themselves to the South for those objects on which Southern mad-men now are bent.—*Redpath, Echoes, 512-13.*

An extract from an "Address on Climatology," before the Academy of Science at New Orleans:

The institution of slavery operates by contrast and comparison; it elevates the tone of the superior, adds to its refinement, allows more time to cultivate the mind, exalts the standard in morals, manners, and intellectual endowments, operates as a safety valve for the evil-disposed, leaving the upper race power, while it preserves from degradation, in the scale of civilization, the inferior, which we see in their uniform destiny when left to themselves. The slaves constitute essentially the lowest class, and society is immeasurably benefited by having this class which constitutes the offensive fungus—the great cancer of civilized life—a vast burthen and expense to every community, under surveillance and control; and not only so, but under direction as an efficient agent to promote the general welfare and increase the wealth of the community. The history of the world furnishes no institution under similar management, where so much good actually results to the governors and to the governed as this in the Southern states of North America.—*Quoted in Olmsted's "Cotton Kingdom," p. 277.*

As an offset to the preceding let us hear from Wendell Phillips on "The Lesson of the Hour," Brooklyn, Nov. 1, 1859:

. . . Somewhat briefly stated, such is the idea of American civilization; uncompromising faith—in the average selfishness, if you choose—of all classes, neutralizing each other, and tending towards that fair play that Saxons love. But it seems to me that, on all ques-

tions, we dread thought; we shrink behind something; we acknowledge ourselves unequal to the sublime faith of our fathers; and the exhibition of the last twenty years and of the present state of public affairs is, that Americans dread to look their real position in the face. . . . They have no idea of absolute right. They were born since 1787, and absolute right means the truth diluted by a strong decoction of the Constitution of 1789. They breathe that atmosphere. They do not want to sail outside of it; they do not attempt to reason outside of it. Poisoned with printer's ink, or choked with cotton dust, they stare at absolute right, as the dream of madmen. For the last twenty years, there has been going on, more or less heeded and understood in various states, an insurrection of ideas against the limited, cribbed, cabined, isolated American civilization interfering to restor absolute right. . . .

Thank God, I am not a citizen. You will remember, all of you, citizens of the United States, that there was not a Virginia gun fired at John Brown. . . . You shot him. Sixteen marines to whom you pay \$8 a month—your own representatives, . . . sixteen men, with the Vulture of the Union above them—your representatives! It was the covenant with death and agreement with hell which you call the Union of the States, that took the old man by the throat with a private hand. . . .—*Redpath, Echoes.*

Let us hear LINCOLN speak:

If we would first know where we are, and whither we are tending, we could better judge what to do, and how to do it. We are now far into the fifth year since a policy [Kansas-Nebraska bill] was initiated with the avowed object and confident promise of putting an end to slavery agitation. Under the operation of that policy, that agitation has not only not ceased, but has constantly augmented. In my opinion, it will not cease until a crisis shall have been reached and passed. "A house divided against itself cannot stand." I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved—I do not expect the house to fall—but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become all one thing, or all the other. . . . —*Lincoln, Works, I., p. 240.*

The Lincoln-Douglas debate, 1858:

I do not question Mr. Lincoln's conscientious belief that the negro was made his equal, and hence is his brother, but for my own part I do not regard the negro as my equal, and positively deny that he is my brother or any kin to me whatever . . . He [Lincoln] holds that the negro was born his equal and yours, and that he was endowed with equality by the Almighty, and that no human law can deprive him of these rights which were guaranteed to him by the Supreme Ruler of the universe. Now, I do not believe that the Almighty ever intended the negro to be the equal of the white man. . . . He belongs to an inferior race, and must occupy an inferior position. I do not hold that because the negro is our inferior, therefore he ought to be a slave. By no means can such a conclusion be drawn from what I have said. On the contrary, I hold that humanity and Christianity both require that the negro shall have and enjoy every right, every privilege, and every immunity consistent with the safety of the society in which he lives. . . . —
Douglas, in the Lincoln-Douglas Debates, Works, Lincoln, I., p. 284.

While I was at the hotel to-day, an elderly gentleman called upon me to know whether I was really in favor of producing a perfect equality between the negroes and white people. . . . I will say then that I am not, nor ever have been, in favor of bringing about in any way the social and political equality of the white and black races—that I am not, nor ever have been, in favor of making voters or jurors of negroes, nor of qualifying them to hold office, nor to intermarry with white people; and I will say in addition to this that there is a physical difference between the white and black races which I believe will forever forbid the two races living together on terms of social and political equality. And inasmuch as they cannot so live, while they do remain together there must be the position of superior and inferior, and I as much as any other man am in favor of having the superior position assigned to the white race.—*Lincoln, in Lincoln-Douglas Debates, Lincoln's Works, I., p. 369.*

QUESTIONS.

1. What did J. Q. Adams think of slavery? 2. What did he expect to be necessary in order to secure its abolition? 3. Was his plan statesmanlike? 4. Were his predictions in part fulfilled? 5. Did he attempt in later years the work he here lays out for some man? 6. How did Hayne differ from Adams? 7. Did he see danger in the questions? 8. What remedy did he propose? 9. How do you explain the different positions? 10. Investigate to see whether Hayne had a constitutional foundation for his position. 11. Why did the northern slave states desire the continuance of the system? 12. What profit came to Virginia from the system? 13. Would Virginia naturally favor or oppose the slave trade?

1. What is meant by "incendiary documents"? 2. How were they disposed of in the south? 3. Was such a method right, constitutional? 4. What requests did the south make of northern states regarding these documents? 5. Were they right in demanding their suppression? 6. How did President Jackson propose to deal with the question? 7. Would his plan have been constitutional? 8. What was the real difficulty?

1. Find out what the constitution says in regard to the right of petition. 2. Find out the nature of the petitions sent to Congress. 3. What did Mr. King think of the petitions? 4. What mistake did the south make in opposing the reception of petitions? 5. Name points in Calhoun's argument. 6. What view does he take in regard to slavery? 7. Had the south always held the same views? 8. Did he hold slavery in the abstract to be a good? 9. What prediction did he make? 10. Have his predictions been fulfilled? 11. What objection, if any, to the "gag" rule? 12. What conclusion can you draw from the various votes on the "gag" rules?

1. How did Garrison regard the constitution? Why? 2. Was he a secessionist? 3. How does the Buffalo Platform differ in theory from Garrison and Phillips? 4. How did the *Democratic Review* believe slavery would end? 5. What theories are given in various extracts in regard to method of control or government of the territories? 6. How did Webster hold the character of the institutions of the territories had been fixed? 7. How did Seward regard compromises? 8. Was he right? 9. If so what do you say of the men who made the constitution? 10. What end did A. H. Stephens predict for the Union? 11. Compare views of Stephens and Phillips and Garrison. 12. How explain their views?

1. Did the north and the south understand each other? 2. What qualities did the south believe characterized the people of the north? 3. What did the north think of the southern people? 4. Why was Cuba wished? 5. Did the south believe slavery right? 6.

What arguments given to prove their view? 7. What did Wendell Phillips think of the character of the American people in 1859? 8. Was he right? 9. What difference in tone between Lincoln and Phillips? 10. How did Lincoln hope to end slavery? 11. How did Lincoln regard the negro? 12. How Douglas? 13. What difference in view between the two?

1. Make an outline covering this whole period. 2. Write an essay on the reasons for the contradictory views of the northern and southern statesmen.

THE CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION

Civil War, 1861-65. Slaves freed by thirteenth amendment, 1865. Citizenship defined in fourteenth amendment, 1868, and suffrage granted to the negroes by the fifteenth, 1870. Tennessee reconstructed, 1865; other seceded states fully restored to Union by 1870. "Carpet Bag" governments, 1866-77. Ku Klux Klan, 1866-72. States again in control of whites by 1877. Struggle between Congress and President Johnson, 1866-69. Impeachment of the President, 1868. Grant elected President, 1868. Troops withdrawn from south by President Hayes, 1877.

CHAPTER VIII

THE CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION

IN the last two numbers an attempt was made to trace the development of the slavery question in American history. In this number the culmination is reached; the greatest of civil wars opens before us; and finally the Union appears,—or shall we say reappears, reconstructed, with slavery as a reminiscence. However, it must not be thought that the problem is ended. The American people are too much inclined to accept first settlements as if they were finals. Citizenship was conferred on the negro when he was unprepared for it. He must now be fitted for his duties. Education in its broadest terms must be extended to him. The whole country is interested in, and affected by, the solution. The South has to bear the burden, in the main, as she had to bear that of slavery. In this connection, the most important question of the present and of the immediate future, at least, is that the North and the South do not become estranged over the solution of this question as they did in regard to the original cause. Its difficulties should be recognized by the North, and sympathy and aid, not criticism, should be given.

This number opens with the election of Lincoln, and the consequent secession of the Southern States. The winter of 1860-'61 was perhaps the most momentous and deeply interesting of any that has passed over the history of our country. There may have been other moments

of more outward excitement, but none, perhaps, of the same intensity. There was a general feeling as the months passed that the crisis had come. The North could hardly be brought to realize that the Southern States intended to act in accordance with their words; the Southern people were possessed with the idea that the North was purely materialistic and would not fight for an ideal. How little the people of the two sections really did or could understand each other the four years from 1861 to 1865 witness!

However, when the end came, and the greater resources,—but only the same, not greater courage and devotion—had given the victory to the free states, and in giving them their triumph had made all free states, the settlement of the terms of reconstruction, was scarcely less difficult and taxing than had been the details of the struggle itself.

During the year 1860-'61 almost the entire history of the United States may be studied by tracing backward to their beginnings the principles that were then in controversy. The nature of the Constitution: were the States sovereignties? Under this heading we might trace the development of the idea back through the Nullification struggle, the Hartford convention, the Virginia and Kentucky resolutions to the Convention of 1787, and then beyond to the forces that were foundational. The position of slavery under the Constitution: its entire history would be necessary to estimate at their true worth the various arguments that were advocated by the many groups into which the people were at the time divided. The powers of the executive: what were their limits in time of war? But it is impossible to attempt an enumeration of the interesting questions that are found in these years of American

history. Their settlement distinctly modified the world's history, and was of the greatest moment in determining the character and future of the United States.

Lincoln, in his great Cooper Institute speech of February 27, 1860, discussed the subject of slavery as he saw it from the standpoint of the South and of the North. In the concluding portion he said:

A few words now to Republicans. It is exceedingly desirable that all parts of this great Confederacy shall be at peace and in harmony one with another. . . . Even though the Southern people will not so much as listen to us, let us calmly consider their demands and yield to them if, in our deliberate view of our duty, we possibly can. . . . What will satisfy them? Simply this: we must not only let them alone, but we must somehow convince them that we do let them alone. . . . What will convince them? This, and this only: cease to call slavery wrong, and join them in calling it right. . . . Their thinking it right and our thinking it wrong is the precise fact upon which depends the whole controversy. Thinking it right, as they do, they are not to blame for desiring its full recognition as being right; but thinking it wrong, as we do, can we yield to them?—*Works, I, pp. 611-12.*

December 22, 1860, Lincoln wrote to A. H. Stephens in reply to a letter from Mr. Stephens in these words:

I fully appreciate the present peril the country is in, and the weight of responsibility on me. Do the people of the South really entertain fears that a Republican administration would, directly or indirectly, interfere with the slaves, or with them about the slaves? If they do, I wish to assure you, as once a friend, and still, I hope, not an enemy, that there is no cause for such fears. The South would be in no more danger in this respect than it was in the days of Washington. I suppose, however, this does not meet the case. You think slavery is right and ought to be extended, while we think it is wrong and ought to be restricted. . . .
—*Ibid, p. 660.*

On the way to Washington, in February, 1861, Lincoln made a series of speeches. A few extracts from these will give us an insight into Lincoln's views at the last moment before he assumed office.

At Indianapolis he said:

The words "coercion" and "invasion" are much used in these days. . . . What, then, is "coercion"? What is "invasion"? Would the marching of an army into South Carolina without the consent of her people, and with hostile intent toward them, be "invasion"? I certainly think it would. . . . But if the United States should merely hold and retake its own forts and other property, etc., . . . would any or all of these be "invasion" or "coercion"? *Ibid*, p. 673.

In Cincinnati he repeated and reaffirmed the words he had used in a speech there the year before. In part he spoke, addressing the people of Kentucky, as follows:

We mean to treat you, as near as we possibly can, as Washington, Jefferson, and Madison treated you. We mean to leave you alone, and in no way interfere with your institutions, to abide by all and every compromise of the Constitution. . . . *Ibid*, p. 675.

At Columbus he used these words in concluding his address:

I have not maintained silence from any want of real anxiety. It is a good thing that there is no more than anxiety, for there is nothing going wrong. It is a consoling circumstance that when we look out there is nothing that really hurts anybody. We entertain different views upon political questions, but nobody is suffering anything. This is a most consoling circumstance, and from it we may conclude that all we want is time, patience, and a reliance on that God who has never forsaken this people. *-Works, I, p. 677.*

At Pittsburgh, on the same idea, he said:

Notwithstanding the troubles across the river [pointing south], there is no crisis but an artificial one. . . . I repeat, then, there is no crisis excepting such a one as may be gotten up at any time by turbulent men

aided by designing politicians. My advice to them, under such circumstances, is to keep cool. If the great American people only keep their temper on both sides of the line, the troubles will come to an end, and the question which now distracts the country will be settled, just as surely as all other difficulties of a like character which have originated in this government have been adjusted.—*Works, I, p. 678.*

Lincoln urges the same thought at Cleveland; but it is to be noticed that he did not repeat it again. A deeper and graver tone was manifest as he approached Washington.

The foregoing extracts give an insight into the ideas, and, to some extent, the plans of Lincoln and the Republicans. Buchanan's Annual Message states his thoughts fully, if not clearly. The following excerpts will afford something of an idea of his point of view:

. . . . Why is it, then, that discontent now so extensively prevails, and the Union of the States, which is the source of all these blessings, is threatened with destruction?

The long-continued and intemperate interference of the Northern people with the question of slavery in the Southern states has at length produced its natural effects. The different sections of the Union are now arrayed against each other and the time has arrived, so much dreaded by the Father of his Country, when hostile geographical parties have been formed. . . .

How easy would it be for the American people to settle the slavery question forever, and to restore peace and harmony to this distracted country! . . . All that is necessary to accomplish the object, and all for which the slave states have ever contended, is to be let alone and permitted to manage their domestic institutions in their own way. As sovereign States, they, and they alone, are responsible before God and the world for the slavery existing among them. . . .

And this brings me to observe that the election of any one of our fellow-citizens to the office of President

does not of itself afford just cause for dissolving the Union. . . . In order to justify a resort to revolutionary resistance, the Federal Government must be guilty of "a deliberate, palpable, and dangerous exercise" of powers not granted by the Constitution.

In order to justify secession as a constitutional remedy, it must be on the principle that the Federal Government is a mere voluntary association of States. . . . If this be so, the Confederacy is a rope of sand, . . . [which] might be broken into fragments in a few weeks, which cost our forefathers many years of toil, privation, and blood to establish.

Such a principle is wholly inconsistent with the history as well as the character of the Federal Constitution. . . .

It [the Union] was intended to be perpetual, and not to be annulled at the pleasure of any one of the contracting parties.

It may be asked, then, are the people of the States without redress against the tyranny and oppression of the Federal Government? By no means. The right of resistance on the part of the governed against the oppression of their governments cannot be denied. It exists independently of all constitutions. . . . But the distinction must ever be observed that this is revolution against an established government, and not a voluntary secession from it by virtue of an inherent constitutional right. In short, let us look the danger fairly in the face; secession is neither more nor less than revolution. It may or it may not be a justifiable revolution, but still it is revolution. . . .

Then in speaking of the power of Congress or the president to coerce a State, should it attempt secession, he used this language:

The question fairly stated is: Has the Constitution delegated to Congress the power to coerce a State into submission which is attempting to withdraw, or has actually withdrawn from the Confederacy? . . .

Buchanan argues against this power, then says:

But if we possessed this power, would it be wise to exercise it under existing circumstances? . . .

The fact is, that our Union rests upon public opinion and can never be cemented by the blood of its citizens shed in civil war. If it cannot live in the affections of the people, it must one day perish. Congress possesses many means of preserving it by conciliation; but the sword was not placed in their hand to preserve it by force. He then proposes that Congress submit these amendments to the States, as follows:

- I. An express recognition of the right of property in slaves in the States. . . .
- II. The duty of protecting the right in all the common territories. . . .
- III. The like recognition of the right of the master to have his slave, who has escaped from one State to another, restored and "delivered up" to him. . .

—*Buchanan's Message, Dec. 3, 1860, Cited in Curtis' Buchanan, II, pp. 337 f.*

Passing to the South we see that acts are substituted for words. Let us see what South Carolina did.

AN ORDINANCE to dissolve the Union between the State of South Carolina and other States united with her under the compact entitled "The Constitution of the United States of America."

We, the people of the State of South Carolina in convention assembled, do declare and ordain, . . . that the ordinance adopted by us in convention on the twenty-third day of May [1788] whereby the Constitution of the United States of America was ratified, . . . [and amendments] are hereby repealed; and that the Union now subsisting between South Carolina and other States, under the name of the "United States of America," is hereby dissolved.

Done at Charleston the twentieth day of December, [1860].

D. F. JAMESON,

Delegate from Barnwell and President of the Convention, and Others.

Attest:

BENJAMIN F. ARTHUR,

Clerk of the Convention.

—*Rebellion Records, Series I, vol. 1, p. 110.*

Two days after the passage of the above ordinance the State of South Carolina gave the following commission to Robert W. Barnwell, James H. Adams, and James L. Orr:

Whereas the convention of the People of South Carolina, . . . did . . . order that their commissioners . . . proceed to Washington, authorized, . . . to treat with the Government of the United States for the delivery of the forts, magazines, light-houses, and other real estate . . . within the limits of South Carolina; and also for an apportioning of the public debt and for a division of the other property held by the government of the United States as agent of the confederated States, of which South Carolina was recently a member; and generally to negotiate . . . for the continuance of peace and amity between this commonwealth and the Government at Washington: . . .—*Ibid*, p. 111.

On December 28, 1860, the above named commissioners of South Carolina sent a communication to the president, from which the following extract is made:

. . . In the execution of this trust it is our duty to furnish you . . . with an official copy of the ordinance of secession, by which the State of South Carolina has resumed the powers she delegated to the Government of the United States and has declared her perfect sovereignty and independence. It would also have been our duty to have informed you that we were ready to negotiate with you upon all such questions as are necessarily raised by the adoption of this ordinance, and that we were prepared to enter upon this negotiation with the earnest desire to avoid all unnecessary and hostile collision, and so to inaugurate our new relations as to secure mutual respect, general advantage, and a future of good will and harmony. . . . But the events of the last twenty-four hours render such an assurance impossible. [This was the taking possession of Ft. Sumter by Major Anderson.]

. . .

And in conclusion we would urge upon you the immediate withdrawal of the troops from the harbor

of Charleston. Under present circumstances they are a standing menace which render negotiations impossible, and . . . threaten speedily to bring to a bloody issue questions which ought to be settled with temperance and judgment *Ibid*, pp. 109-110.

During the winter of 1860-'61 several plans were proposed to secure such amendments to the Constitution as would satisfy the various sections of the country, and thus restore harmony to the Union. Congress tried its hand and outlined six propositions, which, however, were never sent to the states.

On the request of the State of Virginia, a convention of delegates from the States of the Union was held in Washington, commencing February 4th, and closing on the 27th, of the same month, which proposed that Congress submit seven Constitutional amendments to the States for their action. Delegates were present from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, and Kansas, including, as delegates, such men as W. P. Fessenden, L. M. Morrill, Geo. S. Boutwell, David Dudley Field, David Wilmot, Reverdy Johnson, Ex-President John Tyler, S. P. Chase, James Harlan, and James Guthrie. Ex-President Tyler, as presiding officer, closed the session in a speech from which these words are taken:

. . . But I here declare that it has never been my good fortune to meet with an association of more intelligent, thoughtful, or patriotic men. . . . I cannot but hope and believe that the blessing of God will follow and rest upon the results of your labors, and that such result will bring to our country that quiet and peace which every patriotic heart so earnestly desires. . . .

Gentlemen, farewell! I go to finish the work you

have assigned me, of presenting your recommendations to the two Houses of Congress. . . .

May you all inculcate among your people a spirit of mutual forbearance and concession; and may God protect our country and the Union of the States, which was committed to us as the blood-bought legacy of our heroic ancestors.

Congress did not submit the propositions as recommended, but instead the following action was taken:

MR. CORWIN, Republican (O.), in 1861 moved the following amendment to the Constitution. This amendment was adopted in the House by a vote of 133 to 65, and in the Senate 24 to 12. It reads as follows, and was to be numbered thirteen:

No amendment shall be made to the Constitution which will authorize or give to Congress the power to abolish or interfere, within any State, with the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service by the laws of said State.

Contrast this with the 13th Amendment as adopted in 1865, and one can conceive of the immense distance that the nation had traversed in the four years of the civil war.

Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or in any place subject to their jurisdiction.—*Constitution, Article XIII of Amendments.*

When Lincoln was inaugurated as president in 1861, seven of the Southern States had passed articles of secession, similar in terms to those of South Carolina cited above. Already the States had formed a preliminary constitution, and had chosen officers under it. Thus there were two organized general governments in the same territory. Most of the forts and arsenals in the Southern States had been taken possession of by troops of the various States

in which they were situated. Under such conditions Lincoln delivered his Inaugural Address, from which the following extracts are taken:

Apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States that by the accession of a Republican administration their property and their peace and personal security are to be endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension. Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed and been open to their inspection. It is found in nearly all the published speeches of him who now addresses you. I do but quote from one of those speeches when I declare that "I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so" [1860]. Those who nominated and elected me did so with full knowledge that I had made this and many similar declarations, and had never recanted them. And, more than this, they placed in the platform for my acceptance, and as a law to themselves and to me, the clear and emphatic resolution which I now read:

"Resolved, That the maintenance inviolate of the rights of the States, and especially the right of each State to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its own judgment exclusively, is essential to that balance of power on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depend, and we denounce the lawless invasion by armed force of the soil of any State or Territory, no matter under what pretext, as among the greatest of crimes."

I now reiterate these sentiments, and in doing so, I only press upon the public attention the most conclusive evidence of which the case is susceptible, that the property, peace, and security of no section are to be in anywise endangered by the new incoming administration. I add, too, that all the protection which, consistently with the Constitution and the laws can be given, will be cheerfully given to all the States when lawfully demanded, for whatever cause—as cheerfully to one section as to another. . . . I take the official oath to-day with no mental reservations, and

with no purpose to construe the Constitution or laws by any hypercritical rules. . . .

I hold that in contemplation of universal law and of the Constitution, the Union of these States is perpetual. Perpetuity is implied, if not expressed, in the fundamental law of all national governments. . . .

In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war. The government will not assail you. You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors. You have no oath registered in heaven to destroy the government, while I shall have the most solemn one to "preserve, protect, and defend it."

I am loath to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passions may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battle field and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature.—*Lincoln's Inaugural Address, Works, II, pp. 1-7.*

The first great question to come before the new administration was connected with provisioning Fort Sumter. March 13 the president consulted his cabinet, with results as follows:

SEWARD said:

. . . If it were possible to peacefully provision Fort Sumter, of course, I should answer that it would be both unwise and inhuman not to attempt it. But the facts of the case are known to be that the attempt must be made with the employment of military and marine force, which would provoke combat, and probably initiate civil war. . . .

I have not hesitated to assume that the Federal Government is committed to maintain, preserve, and defend the Union peaceably if it can, forcibly if it must—to every extremity. . . .

CHASE wrote:

. . . If the attempt will so inflame civil war as to involve an immediate necessity for the enlistment of armies and the expenditure of millions, I cannot

advise it in the existing circumstances of the country and in the present condition of the national finances.—*Lincoln's Works, II, pp. 13, 15.*

The other members of the cabinet agreed with the above in general, except Secretary Blair, who was for sending aid and provisions. On March 29, for the second time, a written opinion in regard to the policy of sending an expedition to relieve Fort Sumter, was asked of each member of the cabinet.

MR. SEWARD wrote:

The fact of preparation for such an expedition would inevitably transpire, and would therefore precipitate the war, and probably defeat the object. I do not think it wise to provoke a civil war beginning at Charleston and in rescue of an untenable position.

Therefore, I advise against the expedition in every view. . . .

MR. CHASE wrote:

. . . I am clearly in favor of maintaining Fort Pickens, and just as clearly in favor of provisioning Fort Sumter. . . .

MR. WELLES said:

I concur in the proposition to send an armed force off Charleston with supplies of provisions, and reinforcements for the garrison of Fort Sumter. . . .

MR. SMITH answered:

. . . Believing that Fort Sumter cannot be successfully defended I regard its evacuation as a necessity, and I advise that Major Anderson's command shall be unconditionally withdrawn. . . .

MR. BLAIR wrote:

. . . It is acknowledged to be possible to relieve Fort Sumter. It ought to be relieved without reference to Pickens or any other possession. South Carolina is the head and front of this rebellion, and when that State is safely delivered from the authority of the United States it will strike a blow against our authority from which it will take years of bloody strife to recover. . . .

MR. BATES wrote:

[Believed in reinforcing Pickens, and] As to Fort Sumter, I think the time is come either to evacuate or relieve it.—*Lincoln's Works*, II, pp. 26-28.

Read the following letter, and think what the end was, and when it came, nay when it will come:

FORT SUMTER, S. C., April 12, 1861.—3:20 A. M.

SIR: By authority of Brigadier-General Beauregard commanding the Provisional Forces of the Confederate States, we have the honor to notify you that he will open the fire of his batteries on Fort Sumter in one hour from this time.

We have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

JAMES CHESTNET, JR.,

Aid-de-Camp.

STEPHEN D. LEE,

Captain U. S. Army, Aid-de-Camp.

MAJ. ROBERT ANDERSON,

U. S. Army, Commanding Fort Sumter.

—*Rebellion Records*, I, p. 14.

Congress met on the call of the president, July 4. President Lincoln sent in his first message on that day. Some striking passages are here quoted:

Lest there be some uneasiness in the minds of candid men as to what is to be the course of the government toward the Southern States after the rebellion shall have been suppressed, the executive deems it proper to say it will be his purpose then, as ever, to be guided by the Constitution and the laws, and that he probably will have no different understanding of the powers and duties of the Federal Government relatively to the rights of the States and the people, under the Constitution, than that expressed in the inaugural address.—*Lincoln's Message to Congress in Special Session, July 4, 1861, Works*, II, p. 65.

In the midst of the war, on November 19, 1863, President Lincoln made his Gettysburg Address, an address which probably will live

as long as the English language shall be spoken or read.

Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting-place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate—we cannot consecrate—we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.—*Works, II, p 439.*

THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

After citing part of the proclamation of September 22, 1862, Lincoln says:

Nor, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, by virtue of the power in me vested as commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States, . . . and as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing said rebellion, do on this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and in accordance with my purpose so to do, . . . order and designate as

the States and parts of States wherein the people thereof, respectively, are this day in rebellion against the United States, the following, to-wit [named] . . .

And by virtue of the power, and for the purpose aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within said designated States . . . are and henceforth shall be free. . . .—*Lincoln's Works*, II, pp. 287-88.

The great question of Reconstruction began to agitate the minds of American statesmen as early as 1862. Lincoln's first State paper on this subject outlines his plans in a general way. Other quotations from later papers, which follow, will show the development of his idea.

I recommend the adoption of a joint resolution by your honorable bodies [of Congress], which shall be substantially as follows:

Resolved, That the United States ought to co-operate with any State which may adopt gradual abolishment of slavery, giving to such State pecuniary aid, to be used by such State, in its discretion, to compensate for the inconveniences, public and private, produced by such change of system. . . .

The Federal Government would find its highest interest in such a measure, as one of the most efficient means of self-preservation.—*Works*, II, p. 129 [Both branches of Congress adopted this resolution by large majorities.]

In December, 1862, Mr. Lincoln recommended three resolutions to be adopted as amendments to the Constitution. They were as follows:

I. "Every State wherein slavery now exists which shall abolish the same therein at any time or times before the first day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand and nine hundred, shall receive compensation from the United States [in United States bonds] as follows for each slave shown to have been therein by the eighth census of the United States" . . . [so many dollars].

The measure is both just and economical. In a certain sense the liberation of slaves is the destruction of property—property acquired by descent or by pur-

chase, the same as any other property. It is no less true for having been often said, that the people of the South are not more responsible for the original introduction of this property than are the people of the North; and when it is remembered how unsatisfactorily we all use cotton and sugar and share the profits of dealing in them, it may not be quite safe to say that the South has been more responsible than the North for its continuance. If, then, for a common object this property is to be sacrificed, is it not just that it be done at a common charge?

II. "All slaves who shall have enjoyed actual freedom by the chances of the war at any time before the end of the rebellion, shall be forever free, but all owners of such who shall not have been disloyal shall be compensated for them at the same rates as are provided for States adopting abolishment of slavery."

III. "Congress may appropriate money and otherwise provide for colonizing free colored persons, with their own consent at any place or places without the United States"

I cannot make it better known than it already is, that I strongly favor colonization

This plan is recommended as a means, not in exclusion of, but additional to, all others for restoring and preserving the national authority throughout the Union. The subject is presented exclusively in its economical aspect. The plan would, I am confident, secure peace more speedily, and maintain it more permanently than can be done by force alone; while all it would cost, considering amounts, and manner of payment, and times of payment, would be easier paid than will be the additional cost of the war, if we rely solely upon force. It is much—very much that it would cost no blood at all. . . . Other means may succeed, this could not fail. The way is plain, peaceful, generous, just . . . a way which if followed, the world will forever applaud, and God must forever bless. *Ibid.* pp. 276-277.

And it is suggested as not improper that, in constructing a loyal State government in any State, the name of the State, the boundary, the subdivisions, the constitution and the general code of laws, as before the rebellion, be maintained subject only to the modi-

fications made necessary by the conditions hereinbefore stated, and such others, if any, not contravening said conditions, and which may be deemed expedient.—*Lincoln's Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction, Aug. 12, 1863, Works, II, p. 444.*

The policy of emancipation, and of employing black soldiers, gave to the future a new aspect, about which hope, and fear, and doubt contended in uncertain conflict. According to our political system, as a matter of civil administration, the General Government had no lawful power to effect emancipation in any State, and for a long time it had been hoped that the rebellion could be suppressed without resorting to it as a military measure. It was all the while deemed possible that the necessity for it might come, and that if it should, the crisis of the contest would then be presented. It came, and, as was anticipated, it was followed by dark and doubtful days. Eleven months having now passed, we are permitted to take another review. The rebel borders are pressed still further back. . . . Maryland and Missouri, neither of which three years ago would tolerate any restraint upon the extension of slavery into new Territories, only dispute now as to the best mode of removing it within their own limits. . . . No servile insurrection, or tendency to violence or cruelty, has marked the measures of emancipation and arming the blacks. These measures have been much discussed in foreign countries, and contemporary with such discussion the tone of public sentiment there is much improved. . . . *Lincoln's Annual Message, Dec. 8, 1863, Works, II, pp. 453, 454.*

Lincoln's plan of Reconstruction, as formulated December, 1863, continued to be attacked till the end of his life. Two days before his death he made his last public address, which was largely given over to a discussion of this question. In part he said:

We meet this evening not in sorrow, but in gladness of heart. The evacuation of Petersburg and Richmond, and the surrender of the principal insurgent army, give hope of a righteous and speedy peace, whose joyous expression cannot be restrained. . . .

By these recent successes the reinauguration of the national authority—reconstruction—which has had a large share of thought from the first, is pressed much more closely on our attention. It is fraught with great difficulty. . . . Nor is it a small additional embarrassment that we, the loyal people, differ among ourselves as to the mode, etc. . . . [He then discusses what he has done in Louisiana.] [Concerning the question whether the States were ever out of the Union] I have purposely forborne any public expression on it. As it appears to me, that question has not been, not yet is, a practically material one. . . .

We are all agreed that the seceded States, so-called, are out of their proper practical relation with the Union, and that the sole object of the government . . . is to again get them into that proper practical relation. I believe that it is not only possible, but in fact easier, to do this without deciding or even considering whether these States have ever been out of the Union, than with it. Finding themselves safely at home, it would be utterly immaterial whether they had ever been abroad. . . .

I repeat the question: Can Louisiana be brought into proper practical relation with the Union sooner by sustaining or by discarding her new State government? . . . So new and unprecedented is the whole case that no exclusive and inflexible plan can safely be prescribed as to details and collaterals. . . . Important principles may and must be inflexible. In the present situation, as the phrase goes, it may be my duty to make some new announcement to the people of the South. I am considering, and shall not fail to act when satisfied that action will be proper.—*Works, II, pp. 672-675.*

RECONSTRUCTION UNDER PRESIDENT JOHNSON.

President Johnson began on May 29, 1865, to carry out a system of reconstruction which he always claimed was the one Lincoln had planned. On that date he issued an amnesty proclamation to all those lately in rebellion, with fourteen excepted classes.

To the end, therefore, that the authority of the Gov-

ernment of the United States may be restored, and that peace, order, and freedom may be established, I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, do proclaim and declare that I hereby grant to all persons who have, directly or indirectly, participated in the existing rebellion [exceptions] amnesty and pardon, with restoration of all rights of property, except as to slaves, . . . upon the condition . . . that such person subscribe the following oath. . . . I, ——— do solemnly swear . . . that I will henceforth faithfully support, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States. . . .—*McPherson, Reconstruction*, pp. 9-10.

On the same day he appointed William W. Holden Provisional Governor of North Carolina, with powers and duties as follows:

. . . I, Andrew Johnson, . . . do hereby appoint William W. Holden Provisional Governor of the State of North Carolina, whose duty it shall be . . . to prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary and proper for convening a convention, [and also] with authority to exercise . . . all the powers necessary and proper to enable such loyal people of the State . . . to restore said state to its constitutional relations to the Federal Government. . . .

Similar action was taken for the other States.

The president, by proclamation, also provided for the recall of the proclamations establishing martial law, blockade, the suspension of the Habeas Corpus, etc. In other words, during the summer of 1865 he had taken almost all the steps necessary to restore the States to their "practical relation" to the Union, by December, when Congress should come together. Almost immediately on its assembling there were signs that there was to be a struggle between Congress and the President. However the Congressional plan was not fully matured and enacted into law before March 2, 1867. In the meantime the State governments set up under President Johnson's plan continued to

exist with some power, but subject to suspension whenever Congress might direct. The first part of the Congressional plan with which the President agreed was the passage of the 13th amendment. The second part was the 14th amendment. The great struggle, however, came over the following law, which contains the substance of the Congressional plan of Reconstruction:

WHEREAS, No legal State governments or adequate protection for life or property now exists in the rebel States [named], therefore,

Be it enacted, etc., That said rebel States shall be divided into military districts and made subject to the military authority of the United States . . . [Five districts provided for.]

SEC. 2. That it shall be the duty of the President to assign to the command of each of said districts an officer of the army . . . and to detail a sufficient military force to enable such officer to perform his duties and enforce his authority. . . .

SEC. 3. That it shall be the duty of each officer . . . to suppress insurrection, disorder . . . and to this end he may allow civil tribunals to take jurisdiction of and to try offenders, or, when in his judgment it may be necessary for the trial of offenders, he shall have power to organize military commissions . . . for that purpose. . . .

SEC. 4. [Speedy trials and no unusual punishments.]

SEC. 5. That when the people of any one of the rebel States shall have formed a constitution of government in conformity with the Constitution of the United States in all respects, framed by a convention of delegates elected by the male citizens of said State, twenty-one years old and upward, of whatever race, color, or previous condition, . . . except such as may be disfranchised for participation in the rebellion, . . . and when such constitution shall provide that the elective franchise shall be enjoyed by all such persons as have the qualifications herein stated for electors . . . and when ratified by a majority vote [accepted by Congress] and when said State . . . shall have adopted the amendment, . . . known as fourteen, and when said article shall have become a

part of the Constitution of the United States . . .
[then the State admitted to privileges of other States].

SEC. 6. [Any existing government provisional only.
. . .]—McPherson, *Reconstruction*, pp. 191, 192.

This bill and all other supplementary bills were vetoed by President Johnson, but all were passed over his veto, and thus became the law of the land. By 1870, under the series of acts of which the one cited is the most important, all the rebel States were again in full operation, and represented in Congress. The final outcome of the struggle was the impeachment of President Johnson. The Senate failed to convict. Congress triumphed, however, in its policy.

QUESTIONS.

1. Was Lincoln anxious to avoid war? 2. Point out the real difference he notes between the North and the South. 3. Did he wish the Republicans to yield their ground? 4. Was it possible for the two sections to agree? 5. What phrase had Lincoln used before this to characterize the nature of the struggle? 6. How had Seward characterized it? 7. How did Lincoln feel toward the South? 8. Give quotations to prove your position. 9. What would be "coercion" of a State according to Lincoln? 10. What did he think the nation might do? 11. How did Lincoln mean to treat slavery in the States? 12. What did he mean by leaving them alone? 13. Did Lincoln seem to think war was necessary? 14. What was the matter? 15. What advice did he give to the people of North and South? 16. Could they take it? 17. Are Lincoln's positions in these extracts and in those given last month consistent with one another?

1. How did President Buchanan explain the troubles? 2. How could the difficulties be settled? 3. Did he believe then in the "irrepressible conflict" doctrine? 4. Which proved to be right? 5. Did he believe the South might secede on account of President Lincoln's election? 6. Did he recognize the *right of secession* at all? 7. How could the States get a redress of grievances? 8. Should anything be done to permit secession? 9. Why not? 10. How did he propose to settle the trouble? 11. Compare ideas of Lincoln and Buchanan.

1. What State passed the first Ordinance of Secession? 2. What relation to the action of the State in 1788? 3. Who acted for the State? 4. Apparently did the State expect war? 5. If not, why not? 6. What did the State offer to do? 7. What was to be the future relation? 8. Judged by the extracts given last

month, why did secession take place? 9. What attempt did Virginia make to prevent secession? 10. How far were many of the Republicans, Lincoln included, ready to go to prevent war? 11. Compare the proposed Thirteenth amendment with the existing one.

1. How did Lincoln attempt to satisfy the South that secession was not justifiable? 2. How did he propose to treat them? 3. Who would be responsible for war if it came? 4. Commit the last paragraph of his inaugural. 5. Can you find another paragraph more eloquent than this?

1. How did the Cabinet feel in regard to aiding Fort Sumter? 2. Why such feelings? 3. Any changes in sentiment between March 15 and March 29? 4. What is the most important letter in this number? Why?

1. How did Lincoln propose to treat the Southern States after the Rebellion was suppressed? 2. What important thought in the Gettysburg speech? 3. Under what power did Lincoln claim the right to issue the Emancipation Proclamation? 4. Would Congress have had the same right? 5. How did Lincoln propose to secure the abolishment of slavery? 6. When would slavery have been ended by his plan? 7. What arguments did he use to sustain his plan? 8. How did the country first receive the Emancipation Proclamation? 9. What did Lincoln believe in regard to the States having ever been out of the Union? 10. When did Lincoln last speak concerning Reconstruction? 11. What policy did President Johnson claim to follow in regard to Reconstruction? 12. What was the great difference between the Congressional plan of Reconstruction and President Johnson's? 13. What do you understand by Reconstruction? 14. Name the principal elements in the Congressional plan. 15. Who could vote in reconstructing the seceded States under President Johnson's plan under the Congressional plan? 16. Write an essay on President Lincoln in the war, using only the material here given.

A STUDY IN AMERICAN FOREIGN RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY

First treaty with France 1778. Franklin our first great diplomat. Difficulty with Genet, 1793. Treaty of Peace, 1783—Commissioners Adams, Franklin, and Jay. The X Y Z. episode, 1793-96. Jay's treaty with England, 1794—the first party struggle over foreign affairs. Livingston and Monroe buy Louisiana, 1803. Gallatin, Adams, Clay, Russell, and Bayard make treaty, 1814, with England. Webster-Ashburton treaty of 1842, settles issues with England. The Clayton-Bulwer treaty, 1853, yet under discussion. Florida treaty, 1819; Mexican War ends 1848, with treaty securing California, etc.

CHAPTER IX

A STUDY IN AMERICAN FOREIGN RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY

SINCE 1815 the development of American political history has been only slightly modified by foreign influences. To a great extent the reason for this may be found in the geographical situation of the United States. Separated by wide oceans from any other important nation, they have been enabled to pursue a self-directive course, almost as freely as if located on an island in the midst of the sea. American diplomatic history may be said to begin on November 29, 1775, when a motion was made to appoint a committee to correspond with "our friends in England and elsewhere." At the moment of writing this introduction our nation is in the midst of the excitement due to the Cuban question, and the imminence of war with Spain on account of it. In 1775 Spain looked upon us as a band of rebels, if she condescended to think of us at all. Now the United States has more than four times the population, and many times the wealth, of the haughty nation which then owned and controlled the larger part of this western hemisphere. The importance and complexity of the problems arising from our foreign relations in 1776 were almost as nothing compared with those that confront us to-day; yet it is undoubtedly true that the course of our development then was much more influenced by our diplomatic policy than it is now. The really great problems are internal ones, and the Amer-

ican people should ever remember this. The diplomatists as well as the statesmen of the Revolutionary period were men of vigor and power. Franklin, Jay, J. Adams, and Jefferson proved themselves able to meet on equal terms the best men that France and England possessed. A little later we find Clay, J. Q. Adams, and especially A. Gallatin, contending with the English ambassadors over the terms of the treaty of peace in 1814, and winning for our nation a decided victory. Monroe and Adams in the events connected with the promulgation of the so-called Monroe doctrine proved themselves able and skilled diplomatists. Webster, in the Webster Ashburton treaty of 1842, gained the good will of Europe for the skill and dignity with which he managed the American cause.

It is possible in one article to touch only a very few of the many events in which our nation has come into contact with other nations. I have chosen to take a few important points and give them a fuller treatment, rather than to attempt to cover the whole ground. The reader, therefore, must remember that these extracts do not touch even many of the most interesting questions which have confronted our statesmen in the past. Yet it is hoped that they may arouse an interest so that more of the documentary matter pertaining to our external relations may be called for and used.

November 29, 1775, congress passed the following resolution, which may be said to be the first word ever uttered by the American people with regard to foreign affairs:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed for the sole purpose of corresponding with our friends in Great Britain, Ireland, and other parts of the world; and that they lay their correspondence before Congress when directed.

The members chosen were Mr Harrison, Dr Frank-

lative department of the Government. In recommending it to their early deliberations I am happy in the assurance that the decision will be worthy the enlightened and patriotic councils of a virtuous, a free, and a powerful nation.—*Richardson, Messages and Papers of the Presidents, vol. 1, pp. 500, 504.*

Henry Clay, in a speech in the House of Representatives on the New Army Bill, January 8, 1813, gives us a good picture of the point of view of the "Young Republicans" of the West and South:

The war was declared, because Great Britain arrogated to herself the pretension of regulating our foreign trade, under the delusive name of retaliatory orders in council—a pretension by which she undertook to proclaim to American enterprise, "thus far shalt thou go and no further"—orders which she refused to revoke, after the alleged cause of their enactment had ceased; because she persisted in the practice of impressing American seamen; because she had instigated the Indians to commit hostilities against us; and because she refused indemnity for her past injuries upon our commerce. I throw out of the question other wrongs. The war in fact was announced, on our part, to meet the war which she was waging on her part. So undeniable were the causes of the war, so powerfully did they address themselves to the feelings of the whole American people, that when the bill was pending before this house, gentlemen in the opposition, although provoked to debate, would not, or could not, utter one syllable against it.—*Mallery, Life of Clay, vol. 1, p. 304.*

And who is prepared to say, that American seamen shall be surrendered as victims to the British principle of impressment? And, sir, what is this principle? She contends, that she has a right to the services of her own subjects, and that, in the exercise of this right, she may lawfully impress them, even although she finds them in American vessels, upon the high seas, without her jurisdiction. Now I deny that she has any right, beyond her jurisdiction, to come on board our vessels, upon the high seas, for any other purpose, than in pursuit of enemies, or their goods,

or goods contraband of war. But she further contends, that her subjects cannot renounce their allegiance to her, and contract a new obligation to other sovereigns. I do not mean to go into the general question of the right of expatriation. If, as is contended, all nations deny it, all nations at the same time admit and practice the right of naturalization. Great Britain herself does this. Great Britain, in the very case of foreign seamen, imposes, perhaps, fewer restraints upon naturalization than any other nation. Then, if subjects cannot break their original allegiance, they may, according to universal usage, contract a new allegiance. What is the effect of this double obligation? Undoubtedly, that the sovereign, having possession of the subject, would have the right to the services of the subject.—*Ibid*, p. 367.

If Great Britain desires a mark by which she can know her own subjects, let her give them an ear mark. The colors that float from the mast-head should be the credentials of our seamen. There is no safety to us, and the gentlemen have been shown it, but in the rule, that all who sail under the flag (not being enemies) are protected by the flag. It is impossible that this country should ever abandon the gallant tars, who have won for us such splendid trophies.—*Ibid*, p. 368.

The disasters of the war admonish us, we are told, of the necessity of terminating the contest. If our achievements by land have been less splendid than those of our intrepid seamen by water, it is not because the American soldier is less brave. On the one element, organization, discipline, and a thorough knowledge of their duties, exist, on the part of the officers and their men. On the other, almost everything is yet to be acquired. We have, however, the consolation that our country abounds with the richest materials, and that in no instance, when engaged in action, have our arms been tarnished.—*Ibid*, p. 312.

What cause, Mr. Chairman, which existed for declaring the war has been removed? We sought indemnity for the past and security for the future. The orders of council are suspended, not revoked, no compensation for spoliations; Indian hostilities, which were before secretly instigated, are now openly en-

couraged; and the practice of impressment unremittingly persevered in and insisted upon. Yet the administration has given the strongest demonstrations of its love of peace. On the twenty-ninth of June, less than ten days after the declaration of war, the secretary of the state writes to Mr. Russell, authorizing him to agree to an armistice, upon two conditions only, and what are they? That the orders in council should be repealed, and the practice of impressing American seamen cease, those already impressed being released. The proposition was for nothing more than a *real* truce, that the war should in fact cease on *both* sides.—*Ibid.*, p. 313.

No, sir, the administration has erred in the steps which it has taken to restore peace, but its error has been, not in doing too little, but in betraying too great a solicitude for that event. An honorable peace is attainable only by an efficient war. My plan would be to call out the ample resources of the country, give them a judicious direction, prosecute the war with the utmost vigor, strike wherever we can reach the enemy, at sea or on land, and negotiate the terms of peace at Quebec or Halifax. We are told that England is a proud and lofty nation, which, disdainful to wait for danger, meets it half way. Haughty as she is, we once triumphed over her, and, if we do not listen to the councils of timidity and despair, we shall again prevail. In such a cause, with the aid of Providence, we must come out crowned with success, but if we fail, let us fail like men, lash ourselves to our gallant tars, and expire together in one common struggle, fighting for *Free Trade and Seamen's Rights*.—*Ibid.*, p. 314.

The Seminole war and Jackson's invasion of Florida in 1817-18 led ultimately to political animosities among American statesmen that influenced in no slight manner the development of its political history. The following extracts from Clay's speeches on the Seminole war will throw some light on the hatred which in later years existed between him and General Jackson. In part he said, January 17, 1819:

General Jackson says that when he received that letter, he no longer hesitated. No, sir, he did no longer hesitate. He received it on the twenty-third, he was in Pensacola on the twenty-fourth, and immediately after set himself before the fortress of San Carlos de Barancas, which he shortly reduced *Veni, vidi, vici*. Wonderful energy! Admirable promptitude! Alas, that it had not been an energy and a promptitude within the pale of the Constitution and according to the orders of the chief magistrate.—*Malory, Life of Clay, vol. I, p. 440*

That the President thought the seizure of the Spanish posts was an act of war, is manifest through his opening message, in which he says that, to have retained them, would have changed our relations with Spain, to do which the power of the executive was incompetent, Congress alone possessing it. The President has, in this instance, deserved well of his country. He has taken the only course which he could have pursued, consistent with the Constitution of the land. And I defy the gentleman to make good both his positions, that the general was right in taking, and the President right in giving up, the posts.—*Ibid, p. 441.*

Recall to your recollection the free nations which have gone before us, where are they now?

"Gone glimmering through the dreams of things that were,

A school boy's tale, the wonder of an hour."

And how have they lost their liberties?

I hope not to be misunderstood; I am far from intimating that General Jackson cherishes any designs inimical to the liberties of the country. I believe his intentions to be pure and patriotic. I thank God that he would not, but I thank Him still more that he could not if he would, overturn the liberties of the republic. But precedents, if bad, are fraught with the most dangerous consequences.—*Ibid, p. 443.*

I hope our happy form of government is to be perpetual. But, if it is to be preserved, it must be by the practice of virtue, by justice, by moderation, by magnanimity, by greatness of soul, by keeping a

watchful and steady eye on the executive; and, above all, by holding to a strict accountability the military branch of the public force.

Beware how you forfeit this exalted character. Beware how you give a fatal sanction, in this infant period of our republic, scarcely yet two score years old, to military insubordination. Remember that Greece had her Alexander, Rome her Cæsar, England her Cromwell, France her Bonaparte, and that if we would escape the rock on which they split, we must avoid their errors.—*Ibid*, p. 444.

The purchase of Florida was not made without a word of criticism concerning its terms from Clay. In a speech on the treaty, April 3, 1820, he uses these words:

We wanted Florida, or rather we *shall* want it; or, to speak more correctly, we want nobody else to have it. We do not desire it for immediate use. It fills a space in our imagination, and we wish it to complete the *arrondissement* of our territory. It must certainly come to us. The ripened fruit will not more surely fall. Florida is enclosed in between Alabama and Georgia, and cannot escape. Texas may. Whether we get Florida now, or some five or ten years hence, it is of no consequence, provided no other power gets it.—*Mallory*, p. 457.

The next [proposition] was, that it was inexpedient to cede Texas to any foreign power. They constituted, in his opinion, a sacred inheritance of posterity, which we ought to preserve unimpaired. He wished it was, if it were not, a fundamental and inviolable law of the land, that they should be inalienable to any foreign power. It was quite evident that it was in the order of Providence; that it was an inevitable result of the principle of population, that the whole of this continent, including Texas, was to be peopled in process of time. The question was, by whose race shall it be peopled? In our hands it will be peopled by freemen and the sons of freemen, carrying with them our language, our laws, and our liberties; establishing on the prairies of Texas, temples dedicated to the simple and devout modes of worship of God incident to our religion.

ion, and temples dedicated to that freedom which we adore next to Him. In the hands of others, it may become the habitation of despotism and of slaves, subject to the vile dominion of the inquisition and of superstition.—*Ibid*, p. 459.

The Monroe Doctrine, so-called, has become so vast that a volume is needed to present it in its entirety. However, it is believed that the following extracts taken from the messages of the Presidents and other documents will serve to throw more light on the subject than can be obtained from our ordinary school history, hence they are given in the hope that every teacher will try to find more illustrative matter. The first extracts are from the articles of agreement of the members of the Holy Alliance:

Their Majesties the Emperor of Austria, the King of Prussia, and the Emperor of Russia, in consequence of the *great events* [of years 1789-1815] . . . have, therefore, agreed to the following articles:

ART. I. In conformity to the words of the Holy Scriptures, which command all men to regard one another as brethren, the three contracting monarchs will remain *united* by the bonds of a true and indissoluble fraternity; . . . and they will lend one another . . . assistance, aid, and support; and, regarding the subjects and armies, as the fathers of their families, they will govern them in the spirit of fraternity with which they are animated, for the protection of *religion, peace, and justice*.

ART. II. Therefore, the only governing principle between the above mentioned governments . . . shall be that of rendering *reciprocal services*; of testifying, . . . the mutual affection with which they ought to be animated; of considering all as only the members of one Christian nation, the three allied powers *looking upon themselves as delegated by Providence* to govern three branches of the same family, to-wit: Austria, Prussia, and Russia, confessing . . . that the Christian nations . . . have really no other sovereign than Him to whom alone power belongs of right. . . . Their majesties, therefore, recommend, . . . to fortify themselves every day

more and more in the principles and exercise of the duties which the Divine Savior has pointed out to us.

ART. III. All powers which wish solemnly to profess the sacred principles which have delegated this act, and who shall acknowledge how important it is to the happiness of nations, too long disturbed, that *these truths* shall henceforth exercise upon human destinies, all the influence which belongs to them, shall be received with as much readiness as affection, into this *holy alliance*.—Cited in *American Diplomacy*, Snow, p. 243.

In 1822, at a congress held at Verona, the Holy Allies added secretly the following clauses to their articles of agreement cited above:

The undersigned, specially authorized to make some additions to *The Treaty of the Holy Alliance*, . . . have agreed as follows:

ART. I. The high contracting powers being convinced that the system of *representative* government is equally as incompatible with the monarchical principles as the maxim of the sovereignty of the people with the divine right, engage mutually, . . . to use all their efforts to *put an end* to the system of *representative* governments, in whatever country it may exist in Europe, and to prevent its being introduced in those countries where it is not yet known.

ART. II. As it cannot be doubted that the *liberty* of the *press* is the most powerful means used by the pretended supporters of the rights of nations, to the detriment of those Princes, the high contracting parties promise reciprocally to adopt all proper measures to *suppress* it, not only in their own states, but, also, in the rest of Europe.—Snow, *American Diplomacy*, p. 245.

The Monroe Doctrine may be seen to have been foreshadowed long before its official promulgation by Monroe by a perusal of the following quotation:

Our detached and distant situation invites and enables us to pursue a different course. If we remain one people, under an efficient government, the period is not far off when we may defy material injury from external annoyance; when we may take such an atti-

tude as will cause the neutrality we may at any time resolve upon to be scrupulously respected; when belligerent nations, under the impossibility of making acquisitions upon us, will not lightly hazard the giving us provocation; when we may choose peace or war as our interests, guided by justice, shall counsel.—*Washington's Farewell Address*.

Jefferson, in 1808, speaks as follows:

We consider their interests and ours as the same, and that the object of both must be to exclude all European influence from this hemisphere.—*Jefferson's Works*, vol. V, p. 381.

In 1823 Jefferson writes to Monroe in these words:

Our first and fundamental maxim should be, never to entangle ourselves in the broils of Europe. Our second, never to suffer Europe to intermeddle with cis-Atlantic affairs. America, North and South, has a set of interests distinct from those of Europe, and peculiarly her own. She should therefore have a system of her own, separate and apart from that of Europe. While the last is laboring to become the domicile of despotism, our endeavor should surely be to make our hemisphere that of freedom.—*Jefferson's Works*, vol. VII, p. 315.

Monroe formulates the doctrine in this way in his celebrated message of December 2, 1823:

In the discussion to which this interest has given rise, and in the arrangements by which they may terminate, the occasion has been adjudged proper for asserting, as a principle in which the rights and interests of the United States are involved, that the American continents, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintain, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers.—*Richardson, Messages and Papers of the Presidents*, vol. II, p. 207 f.

The political system of the allied powers is essentially different in this respect from that of America. This difference proceeds from that which exists in their respective governments. And to the defense of

our own, . . . this whole nation is devoted. We owe it, therefore, to candor, and to the amicable relations existing between the United States and those powers, to declare, that we should consider any attempt on their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety.—*Ibid*

In the war between those new governments and Spain, we declared our neutrality at the time of their recognition, and to this we have adhered, and shall continue to adhere, provided no change shall occur which, in the judgment of the competent authorities of this government, shall make a corresponding change on the part of the United States indispensable to their security.—*Ibid*.

It is impossible that the allied powers should extend their political system to any portion of either continent without endangering our peace and happiness; nor can anyone believe that our southern brethren, if left to themselves, would adopt it of their own accord. It is equally impossible, therefore, that we should behold such interposition, in any form, with indifference. *Ibid*.

President Cleveland, in his message to Congress December 17, 1895, applied the Monroe Doctrine to the Venezuelan question. Between the farewell message of Washington and the present moment the idea has been in process of development. Trace its evolution.

[It is claimed] that the reasons justifying an appeal to the doctrine enunciated by President Monroe are generally inapplicable "to the state of things in which we live at the present day," and especially inapplicable to a controversy involving the boundary line between Great Britain and Venezuela.

Without attempting extended arguments in reply to this position, it may not be amiss to suggest that the doctrine upon which we stand is strong and sound because its enforcement is important to our peace and safety as a nation and is essential to the integrity of our free institutions and the tranquil maintenance of our distinctive form of government. It was in

tended to apply to every stage of our national life and cannot become obsolete while our republic endures.

It is also suggested in the British reply that we should seek not to apply the Monroe doctrine to the pending dispute, because it does not embody any principle of international law which "is founded on the general consent of nations." . . .

Practically, the principle for which we contend has peculiar if not exclusive relations to the United States. It may not have been admitted in so many words to the code of international law, but since in international councils every nation is entitled to the rights belonging to it, if the enforcement of the Monroe doctrine is something we may justly claim, it has its place in the code of international law as certainly and securely as if it were specifically mentioned. . . . The Monroe doctrine finds its recognition in those principles of international law which are based upon the theory that every nation shall have its rights protected and its just claims enforced

Assuming, however, that the attitude of Venezuela will remain unchanged, the dispute has reached such a stage as to make it now incumbent upon the United States to take measures to determine with sufficient certainty for its justification what is the true divisional line between the republic of Venezuela and British Guiana.

In order that such an examination might be prosecuted in a thorough and satisfactory manner, I suggest that the Congress make an adequate appropriation for the expenses of a commission to be appointed by the executive who shall make the necessary investigation. . . . When such report is made and accepted it will, in my opinion, be the duty of the United States to resist by every means in its power as a wilful aggression upon its rights and interests the appropriation by Great Britain of any lands or the exercise of governmental jurisdiction over any territory which after investigation we have determined of right belongs to Venezuela.

I am, nevertheless, firm in my conviction that

while it is a grievous thing to contemplate the two great English-speaking peoples of the world as being otherwise than friendly competitors in the onward-march of civilization and strenuous worthy rivals in all the arts of peace, there is no calamity which a great nation can invite which equals that which follows a supine submission to wrong and injustice and the consequent loss of national self-respect and honor beneath which is shielded and defended a people's safety and greatness.—*Nebraska State Journal*, December 18, 1895.

QUESTIONS.

1. Who acted as the first Secretaries of State for the United States? 2. How were they chosen? 3. What their duties? 4. How were treaties to be prepared? 5. Who were the first foreign ministers? 6. Who appointed them? 7. How were they to live? 8. Why were they to live in such a style? 9. With what nation did we form the first treaty? 10. What guarantees did France and the United States mutually make? 11. What was the leading object of the treaty?

1. What peculiar statements do you find in the treaty of peace of 1783? 2. Who were acknowledged independent? 3. Find out why the navigation of the Mississippi river was to remain forever free to both nations. 4. How did John Adams feel in regard to the fisheries. 5. Summarize his arguments. 6. Was he ready to abandon the fisheries? 7. Whom did Adams regard as the ablest of the commissioners? 8. What title had the French given him? 9. Did he believe he deserved it?

1. Why was Mr. Monroe told that France did not intend to receive at present another minister from the United States? 2. Find out who the Directory were. 3. Why the cry "millions for defense, not a cent for tribute"? 4. Why the name X. Y. Z. to the difficulty with France, 1798-'99? 5. How did "Hail Columbia" come to be written? 6. What do you think of the "poetry" of 1798? 7. What did the Americans evidently think of the French at this time? 8. Name the causes of the war of 1812. 9. What does Clay mean by British principle of impressment? 10. Could a person be a citizen of two states at once? 11. If so which should protect him? 12. How did Clay feel in regard to war? 13. How about making peace in 1813?

1. What had Jackson done that made Clay so sarcastic in his speech of January 17, 1819? 2. Did Clay fear Jackson? 3. Where did he get his model for his sentence beginning "Remember that Greece had her Alexander," etc.? 4. Did Clay wish to purchase Florida in 1820? 5. Was there any other territory he preferred; why?

1. What principles did the Holy Allies hold? 2. Who were the Holy Allies? 3. Why had they formed the holy alliance? 4. What principles of government did the Holy Allies intend to destroy? 5. How did they regard the liberty of the press? 6. Who first set forth some of the ideas in the Monroe Doctrine? 7. What idea does Jefferson add? 8. What did Jefferson believe were the differences in government between Europe and America? 9. What doctrines does Monroe set forth in his message of December 2, 1823? 10. What did he mean by their "political system"? 11. How did President Cleveland interpret the Monroe Doctrine? 12. To what question did he apply it? 13. Is it a part of international law? 14. Write a paper on the growth of the Monroe Doctrine. 15. Is it applicable now to the Cuban issue?




A STUDY IN ECONOMIC HISTORY

National Banks, 1791, 1816, 1863. Great tariff laws; for revenue—1789, 1846, 1857; for protection—1824, 1828, 1832, 1842, 1864, 1868, 1890, 1898; as compromise—1833. Internal improvements—reports for 1808, 1817; debates on, 1817, 1822; vetoes, 1817, 1822, 1830, 1846, etc. Issues—bank, both on constitutionality and expediency; tariff—the same, as also the same in regard to internal improvements. Great struggle over the bank, 1832-34, between Jackson and the bank.

CHAPTER X

A STUDY IN ECONOMIC HISTORY

 HIS number of our studies, the last of this series, will aim to give a little insight into the history of the tariff, and the movement for internal improvements. It has been thought better to confine our study to these two topics, so that the treatment might be complete enough to give a fair idea of their development, rather than to try to cover in a less thorough manner the whole field. At the best the matter selected can only be held to be supplementary; however it is thought that few, if any, of our ordinary school histories contain as complete a treatment. Besides the chief advantage claimed for these studies is not so much that they give a greater amount of knowledge, but that they afford the means whereby the student may be enabled to work out his history to a great extent for himself. The thought must be present, or the student cannot do anything. He cannot be a mere memory machine.

These studies come down only to the time of the civil war. By leaving out the more recent years it has been hoped that prejudice might play a less important part, and reason and calm judgment a greater part. The tariff has been treated in the main from the standpoint of protection versus free trade. As this is still a controverted question, it needs to be handled with care in order that the student may look at the past from a fair and free minded standpoint. The question of internal improvements has passed so far into limbo that there seems to be

no danger in wrong ideas being gained by carrying present prepossessions into a study of past times.

I shall not outline these subjects in my introductory remarks, for I believe the extracts and the questions on them will accomplish the end sought in the general summary; and thus the results will be more completely the student's own work. There is always present a tendency in the pupil to find in the documents what the collator has found, or believes he has found. In this number there will be no suggestions. Each teacher, therefore, may work with his pupils uninfluenced by any suggestions of mine.

I. THE TARIFF.

The following extracts from the laws of England will help us to understand the early feeling of the statesmen of the United States in regard to any restrictions on the right to manufacture and to trade.

[1699 it was declared to be] unlawful to load wool upon any horse, cart, or other carriage.

[1750] WHEREAS, The importation of bar iron from His Majesty's colonies in America, into the port of London, . . . will be a great advantage, not only to the said colonies, but also to this kingdom, by furnishing the manufacturers of iron with a supply of that useful and necessary commodity, and by means thereof large sums of money, now annually paid for iron to foreigners, will be saved to this Kingdom, and a greater quantity of the woollen, and other manufactures of Great Britain, will be exported to America, in exchange for such iron so imported: . . . *Be it therefore enacted*, etc.

SEC. IX. And that pig and bar iron made in his Majesty's colonies in America may be further manufactured in this Kingdom; be it further enacted that . . . no mill or other engine for slitting or rolling of iron, or any plateing forge to work with a tilt hammer, or any furnace for making steel, shall be erected, or after such erection, continue in any part of his Majesty's colonies in America. . . .

SEC. X. And it is hereby enacted . . . that every such mill, engine, forge, or furnace so erected or continued contrary to the directions of this Act, shall be deemed a common nuisance, and within thirty days must be abated.—*Cited in Elliott's Tariff Controversy, p. 13.*

About 1760, when it was proposed by some to restore Canada to France, Franklin protests and uses the following argument to convince the English manufacturing and commercial interests that it will be for their interests to retain Canada. It will be noticed that Franklin speaks as an Englishman.

A people spread through the whole tract of country on this side of the Mississippi, and secured by Canada in our hands, would probably for some centuries find employment in agriculture, and thereby free us at home effectually from our fears of American manufactures. . . . Manufactures are founded in poverty. . . . But no man who can have a piece of land of his own sufficient by his labor to subsist his family in plenty, is poor enough to be a manufacturer and work for a master. Hence while there is land enough in America for our own people, there can never be manufactures to any amount or value.—*Franklin, Works, III, p. 86.*

In 1776, in a letter to Mr. Hartley, in speaking of the terms of peace between England and the United States, Franklin said:

Restraint on the freedom of commerce and intercourse between us can afford no advantage equivalent to the mischief they will do by keeping up ill-humor and promoting a total alienation,—*Works, VIII, p. 337.*

In 1787 he wrote:

We shall, as you suppose, have imposts on trade and custom-houses, not because other nations have them, but because we cannot at present do without them. . . . When we are out of debt we may leave our trade free, for our ordinary charges of government will not be great. —*Works, IX, p. 460.*

Jefferson wrote in his "Notes on Virginia," in 1781, as follows:

Those who labor in the earth are the chosen people of God, if ever he had a chosen people. . . . While we have land to labor, then, let us never wish to see our citizens occupied at bench work, or twirling a distaff. Carpenters, masons, and smiths, are wanting in husbandry; but for the general operations of manufacture, let our workshops remain in Europe.—*Jefferson, Works, VIII, p. 405.*

Seven years later we find these words:

In general, it is impossible that manufactures should succeed in America, from the high prices of labor. This is occasioned by the great demand of labor for agriculture.—*Ibid, II, p. 412.*

John Adams, in 1780, gives us this picture of his expectations:

America is the country of raw materials, and of commerce enough to carry them to a good market; but Europe is the country for manufactures and commerce. Thus Europe and America will be blessings to each other, if some malevolent policy does not frustrate the purposes of nature. *J. Adams' Works, VII, p. 309.*

Let the following quotation answer whether he believed this "malevolent policy" had triumphed or not. On learning, in 1783, that the English had forbidden all trade with the British West Indies except in British vessels, he wrote:

This proclamation is issued in full confidence that the United States have no confidence in one another; that they cannot agree to act in a body as one nation; that they cannot agree upon any navigation act which may be common to the thirteen States. Our proper remedy would be to confine our exports to American ships.—*Ibid, VIII, p. 97.*

July 19, 1785, he wrote:

Whether prohibitions or high duties will be most politic is a great question.—*Ibid, p. 282.*

August 10, of the same year, he wrote to Jay as follows:

As the French court has condescended to adopt our

principle in theory, I am very much afraid we shall be obliged to imitate their wisdom in practice [and import only in our own vessels] We have hitherto been the bubbles of our own philosophical and equitable liberality; . . . both France and England have shown a constant disposition to take a selfish and partial advantage of us because of them. . . . I hope we shall be the dupes no longer than we must. I would venture upon monopolies and exclusions, if they were found to be the only arms of defence against monopolies and exclusions, without fear of offending Dean Tucker or the ghost of Doctor Quesnay. —*Ibid.*, 251.

A few days later he wrote in these words:

Patience under all the unequal burdens they impose upon our commerce will do us no good; it will contribute in no degree to preserve the peace of this country. On the contrary, nothing but retaliation, reciprocal prohibitions and imposts, and putting ourselves in a posture of defence, will have any effect. . . . Confining exports to our own ships, and laying on heavy duties upon all foreign luxuries, and encouraging our own manufactures, appear to me to be our only resource. —*Ibid.*, 317, cited in Elliott, p. 52.

From the debate over the tariff act of 1789 we may quote some remarks which will still further help us in understanding the spirit of the time. Madison says:

I am a friend of free commerce, and at the same time a friend to such regulations as are calculated to promote our own interest, and this on national principles. . . . I wish we were under less necessity than I find we are, to shackle our commerce with duties, restrictions, and preferences; but there are cases in which it is impossible to avoid following the example of other nations in the great diversity of our trade.—*Annals of Congress*, I, pp. 192, 193.

During the course of the same debate Ames, the leading Federalist from Massachusetts, wrote these words to a friend:

The Senate has begun to reduce the rate of duties

Rum is reduced one-third. . . . Molasses from five to four. I feel as Euceladus would if Etna was removed. The Senate, God bless them, as if designated by Providence to keep rash and frolicsome brats out of the fire, have demolished the absurd, unpolitic, mad discriminations of foreigners in alliance, from other foreigners.—*Life of Fisher Ames*, p. 45.

Hamilton, in his famous Report on Manufactures, 1792, after noting the arguments for freedom of trade, expresses himself as follows:

This mode of reasoning is founded upon facts and principles which have certainly respectable pretensions. If it had governed the conduct of nations more generally than it has done, there is room to suppose that it might have carried them faster to prosperity and greatness than they have attained by the pursuit of maxims too widely opposite. Most general theories, however, admit of numerous exceptions. . . .—*State Papers and Speeches on the Tariff*, p. 3.

[After discussing the value of manufactures he says:] The foregoing considerations seem sufficient to establish, as general propositions, that it is the interest of nations to diversify the industrial pursuits of the individuals who compose them; that the establishment of manufactures is calculated not only to increase the general stock of useful and productive labor, but ever to improve the state of agriculture in particular. . . . *Ibid*, p. 25.

[Again he says:] If the system of perfect liberty to industry and commerce were the prevailing system of nations, the arguments which dissuade a country in the predicament of the United States from the zealous pursuit of manufactures would, doubtless, have great force. It will not be affirmed that they might not be permitted, with few exceptions, to serve as a rule of national conduct. In such a state of things each country would have the full benefit of its peculiar advantages to compensate for its deficiencies or disadvantages. . . .

But the system which has been mentioned is far from characterizing the general policy of nations. . . . The consequence of it is that the United States are, to a certain extent, in the situation of a country

precluded from foreign commerce. . . . In such a position of things the United States cannot exchange with Europe on equal terms, and the want of reciprocity would render them the victim of a system which should induce them to confine their views to agriculture, and refrain from manufacture.—*Ibid*, pp. 26, 27.

Hamilton finally sums up in several propositions the advantages which he claims will be secured to the country should it encourage the development of manufactures.

There seems to be a moral certainty that the trade of a country which is both manufacturing and agricultural will be more lucrative and prosperous than that of a country which is merely agricultural. . . .

Another circumstance which gives a superiority of commercial advantages to States that manufacture as well as cultivate consists in the more numerous attractions which a mere diversified market offers. . . . A third circumstance . . . has relation to the stag-nations of demand for certain commodities which at some time or other interfere more or less with the sale of all. . . .

Not only the wealth, but the independence and security of a country appear to be materially connected with the prosperity of manufactures. . . . Our distance from Europe, the great fountain of manufactured supply, subjects us, in the existing state of things, to inconvenience and loss in two ways [Bulkiness of commodities and consequent cost of carriage]. . . .

If, then, it satisfactorily appears that it is the intent of the United States generally to encourage manufactures, it merits particular attention, that there are circumstances which render the present a critical moment for entering with zeal upon the important business . . . — *Ibid*, pp. 52, 53, 55, 56, 60.

Finally Hamilton suggests eleven means that may be used to encourage the development of manufactures:

- (1.) Protective duties. . . .
- (2.) Prohibitions of rival articles, or duties equivalent to prohibitions.

- (3.) Prohibitions of the exportation of the materials of manufactures.
- (4.) Pecuniary bounties [He especially approves of bounties].
- (5.) Premiums.
- (6.) The exemptions of the materials of manufactures from duty.
- (7.) Drawbacks on the duties which are imposed on the materials of manufactures.
- (8.) The encouragement of new inventions and discoveries. . . .
- (9.) Judicious regulations for the inspection of manufactured commodities.
- (10.) The facilitating of pecuniary remittances from place to place.
- (11.) The facilitating of the transportation of commodities.—*Ibid*, pp. 62-75.

February 12, 1816, Mr. A. J. Dallas, secretary of the treasury, in obedience to a resolution of the house of representatives, made a report on "a general tariff of duties suitable to be imposed on imported goods" . . . In part he said:

There are few, if any, governments which do not regard the establishment of domestic manufactures, as a chief object of public policy. . . .

The American manufactures may be satisfactorily divided into three principal classes; . . . *First class*—Manufactures which are firmly and permanently established, and which wholly, or almost wholly, supply the demand for domestic use and consumption. *Second class*—Manufactures which . . . do not . . . but which, with proper cultivation, are capable of being matured to the whole extent of the demand. *Third class*—Manufactures which are so slightly cultivated, as to leave the demand of the country wholly, or almost wholly, dependent upon foreign sources for a supply. . . .

[*First class*]=Duties might be freely imposed upon the importation of similar articles, amounting wholly, or nearly, to a prohibition, without endangering a scarcity in the supply, or [exorbitant prices]. . . .

The *second class* of manufactures presents considerations of the most interesting, and not of the least embarrassing nature, in the formation of a tariff, . . . for it is respectfully thought to be in the power of the legislature, by a well-timed and well-directed patronage to place them, within a very limited period, upon the footing which the manufactures of the first class have been so happily placed, . . . and it will soon be understood that the success of the American manufacture which tends to diminish the profit (often the excessive profit) of the importer, does not necessarily add to the price of the article in the hands of the consumer.

The *third class* of manufactures does not require further attention . . . than to adjust the rate of duty to the amount of revenue which it is necessary to draw from them. They have not yet been the objects of American capital, industry, etc., . . . ; and the present policy of the government is directed to protect, and not to create manufactures.—*Niles Register*, pp. 437-442.

In 1824 perhaps the greatest debate of early years over the tariff took place between Clay on the one side and Webster on the other. These speeches ought to be read by every American who wishes to be well informed concerning the history of his country. Clay says, in part:

Two classes of politicians divide the people of the United States. According to the system of one, the produce of foreign industry should be subjected to no other import than such as may be necessary to provide a public revenue; and the produce of American industry should be left to sustain itself, if it can, with no other than that ~~in-~~idental protection, in its competition, at home as well as abroad, with rival foreign articles.

In casting our eyes around us the most prominent circumstance which fixes our attention and challenges our deepest regret is the general distress which pervades the whole country.

What, again I would ask, is the cause of the unhappy

condition of our country which I have faintly depicted? It is to be found in the fact that, during almost the whole existence of this government, we have shaped our industry, our navigation, and our commerce, in reference to an extraordinary war in Europe, and to foreign markets which no longer exist. . . .

Our agricultural is our greatest interest. It ought ever to be predominant. . . . Can we do nothing to invigorate it; . . . ? We have seen the causes. . . . We have seen that an exclusive dependence upon the foreign market must lead to still severer distress, We must speedily adopt a genuine American policy. Still cherishing the foreign market, let us create also a home market. . . .

The committee will observe, from the table, that the measure of the wealth of a nation is indicated by the measure of its protection of its industry; and that the measure of the poverty of a nation is marked by that of the degree in which it neglects and abandons the care of its own industry, . . . Great Britain protects most her industry, and the wealth of Great Britain is consequently the greatest.—*State Papers and Speeches on the Tariff*, pp. 253-275.

April 1 and 2 Mr. Webster replied to this speech of Clay in perhaps the ablest speech that he ever made on the tariff. A few extracts will indicate the scope of the argument:

We are represented as on the very verge and brink of national ruin. So far from acquiescing in these opinions, I believe there has been no period in which the general prosperity was better secured, or rested on a more solid foundation. . . .

We have heard much of the policy of England, and her example has been repeatedly urged upon us, . . . I took occasion the other day to remark, that more liberal notions were growing prevalent on this subject; that the policy of restraints and prohibitions was getting out of repute, as the true nature of commerce became better understood; . . .

I have never said, indeed, that prohibitory laws did not exist in England; we all know they do; but the question is, does she owe her prosperity and greatness to these laws? I venture to say that such is not the opinion of the public men now in England; . . . [Lord Lansdowne, in a recent speech in Parliament said] "No axiom was more true than this that it was by growing what the territory of a country could grow most cheaply, and by receiving from other countries what it could not produce except at too great an expense, that the greatest degree of happiness was to be communicated to the greatest extent of population." [Webster quoted this with approval, as he did another statement that] "Some suppose that we have risen in consequence of that system [the restrictive]; others, of whom I am one, believe that we have risen in spite of that system." . . .

In fine, sir, I think it is clear that if we now embrace the system of prohibitions and restrictions we shall show an affection for what others have discarded, and be attempting to ornament ourselves with cast-off apparel.

We are urged to adopt the system [protective] upon general principles; and what would be the consequence of the universal application of such a principle, but that nations would abstain entirely from all intercourse with one another? I do not admit the general principle; on the contrary, I think freedom of trade to be the general principle, and restriction the exception. . . .

We are asked what nations ever attained eminent prosperity without encouraging manufactures? I may ask, what nation ever reached the like prosperity without promoting foreign trade?

On the general question, sir, allow me to ask if the doctrine of prohibition, as a general doctrine, be not preposterous? Suppose all nations to act upon it; they would be prosperous, then, according to the argument, precisely in the proportion in which they abolished trade with one another. The less of mutual commerce the better, upon this hypothesis. . . .

The poverty and unhappiness of Spain have been attributed to the want of protection to her own industry. If by this it is meant that the poverty of Spain is owing to bad government and bad laws, the remark is, in a great measure, just. But these very laws are bad because they are restrictive, partial, and prohibitory. If prohibition were protection, Spain would seem to have had enough of it. . . .—*State Papers and Speeches on the Tariff*, pp 320-364.

"The Free Trade Memorial," prepared by Albert Gallatin in 1831, is one of the most famous of American state papers on that side of the question. It is difficult to find any quotable passages in this paper which will show adequately the line of argument followed. In one place he says:

We may, also, before we dismiss this branch of the subject, and in order to rebut those general assertions of the ruin that attends all nations which rely, in any considerable degree, on foreign trade for a market, appeal to that which we know best, which we have seen and enjoyed—to the experience of North America. Assisted only by the ordinary mechanical arts, and with hardly any manufacturing establishments, America, during two centuries, relied almost exclusively on the cultivation of her soil, and on the exportation of her products to foreign ports; and her progress during that period, in population, wealth, and in all the arts of civilization . . . stands unparalleled in the annals of mankind. A change of circumstances may induce a partial and gradual alteration in the pursuits of her citizens, and we may rest assured that, if not diverted by legislative interference, they will, as heretofore, embrace those best adapted to their situation. — *State Papers and Speeches on the Tariff*, p. 156

The only effect that can possibly be ascribed to a protecting duty is that of encouraging the establishment of manufactures which would otherwise not have existed, or of inducing a greater number of persons to embark in those already existing. The propriety of the duty depends altogether on the proba-

bility of speedy success, that is to say, of the manufacture being so far adapted to the circumstances of the country that, after having been assisted by the duty in surmounting the first difficulties to every new undertaking, it will be able to sustain itself, and without such assistance to compete with the foreign article. It has been clearly shown that the manufacture is otherwise a losing concern, productive of national loss. —*Ibid.*, pp. 161, 162.

In 1845 Robert J. Walker, secretary of the treasury, in his report to congress, urged that the tariff be reduced to a revenue basis. The following extracts indicate the nature of his report:

In suggesting improvements in the revenue laws, the following principles have been adopted.

1st. That no more money should be collected than is necessary for the wants of the government, economically administered.

2d. That no duty be imposed on any article above the lowest rate which will yield the largest amount of revenue.

4th. That the maximum revenue duty should be imposed on luxuries.

5th. That all minimums, and all specific duties, should be abolished, and ad valorem duties substituted in their place . . .

6th. That the duty should be so imposed as to operate as equally as possible throughout the Union, discriminating neither for nor against any class or section.

A protective tariff is a question regarding the enhancement of the profits of capital. That is the object, and not to augment the wages of labor, which would reduce those profits.

The present tariff is unjust and unequal. . . . It discriminates in favor of manufactures and against agriculture, by imposing many higher duties upon the manufactured fabric than upon the agricultural product out of which it is made. It discriminates in

favor of the manufacturer and against the mechanic,
 . . . [also] against the merchant, . . . and
 against the ship-builder and navigating interest, . . .
 etc. It discriminates in favor of the rich and against
 the poor. . . .

Legislation for classes is against the doctrine of
 equal rights, repugnant to the spirit of our free insti-
 tutions. . . .

No prejudice is felt by the Secretary of the Treasury
 against manufacturers. His opposition is to the pro-
 tective system, and not to classes or individuals. . . .
 Whilst a due regard to the just and equal rights of all
 classes forbids a discrimination in favor of the manu-
 factures by duties above the lowest revenue limits,
 no disposition is felt to discriminate against them.
 . . .—*State Papers and Speeches on the Tariff*, pp.
 219-232.

II. INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

As early as 1774, at least, Washington saw
 the great importance of uniting the waters of
 the Ohio and Potomac, regarding it as "a great
 and truly wise policy." (Works, IX, 31.) His
 tour to the western country in 1784 confirmed
 him in the idea. He wrote, October 10, 1784:

The shortest, easiest, and least expensive communi-
 cation with the invaluable and extensive country back
 of us is by one or both of the rivers of this State
 [Virginia] which have their sources in the Appalachian
 mountains. . . . I need not remark to you, sir,
 that the flanks and rear of the United States are pos-
 sessed by other powers, and formidable ones, too, nor
 how necessary it is to apply the cement of interest to
 bind all parts of the Union together by indissoluble
 bonds, especially that part of it which lies immediately
 west of us, with the Middle States. . . . The West-
 ern States (I speak now from my own observation)
 stand as it were upon a pivot. The touch of a feather
 would turn them any way. They have looked down
 the Mississippi until the Spaniards, very impolitically
 I think for themselves, threw difficulties in their way,

and they looked that way for no other reason than because they could glide gently down the stream and because they have no other means of coming to us but by long land transportations and unimproved roads. . . . But smooth the road and make easy the way for them, and then see what an influx of articles will be poured upon us; how amazingly our exports will be increased by them, and how amply we shall be compensated.—*Works (Sparks) IX, 59-63.*

He urges in various letters the political and commercial possibilities with which such connections are pregnant, and that they are necessary to save the West.

Jefferson wrote to a citizen of Kentucky, May 26, 1788:

I wish to see that country in the hands of people well disposed, who know the value of the connection between that and the maritime states and who wish to cultivate it. I consider their happiness as bound up together and that every measure should be taken which may draw the bands of union tighter.—*Jefferson's Works, V (Ford).*

And to Washington he wrote, May 10, 1789:

I consider the union of [the Potomac and Ohio rivers] the strongest link of connection between the eastern and western sides of our confederacy.—*Ibid, V, pp. 93-94.*

To Madison he wrote, March 6, 1796:

Have you considered all the consequences of your proposition [in Congress for building a road from Maine to Georgia] respecting port roads? I view it as a source of boundless patronage by the executive, jobbing to members of Congress and their friends, and a bottomless abyss of public money. You will begin by only appropriating the surplus of the post office revenues; but the other revenues will soon be called to their aid, and it will be a scene of eternal scramble among the members who can get most money wasted in their state, and they will always get most who are meanest.—*Ibid, VII, pp. 63-64.*

Jefferson wrote to Baron Humboldt:

In our America we are turning to public improvements. Schools, roads, and canals are everywhere either in operation or contemplation. The most gigantic undertaking is that of New York for [the Erie Canal]. . . . Internal navigation by steamboats is rapidly spreading We consider the employment of the contributions which our citizens can spare, after feeding, and clothing, and lodging themselves comfortably, as more useful, more moral, and even more splendid than that preferred by Europe of destroying human life, labor, and happiness.—*Works* (1854 Ed.), VII, p. 75.

To Gallatin he wrote, June 16, 1817, regarding Madison's recent veto. He thinks the veto fortunate:

Every state will certainly concede the power and this will be a national confirmation of the ground of appeal to them and will settle forever the meaning of this phrase [the "general welfare" clause of article I, section 8] which, by a mere grammatical quibble, has countenanced the General Government in a claim of universal power. . . . It is fortunate for another reason, as the States, in conceding the power, will modify it either by requiring the federal ratio of expense in each state, or otherwise, so as to secure us against its partial exercise.—*Ibid*, VII, p. 79.

To James Madison, December 24, 1825, he said:

I have for some time considered the question of internal improvement as desperate. The torrent of general opinion sets so strongly in favor of it as to be irresistible. And I suppose that even the opposition in Congress will hereafter be feeble and formal. . . . I learn from Richmond that those who think with us there are in a state of perfect dismay, not knowing what to do or what to propose.—*Ibid*, VII, p. 422.

Hamilton, in 1792, shows how he feels on the question in the following words:

The symptoms of attention to the improvement of inland navigation which have lately appeared in some quarters must fill with pleasure every heart warmed

with a true zeal for the prosperity of the country. These examples it is to be hoped will stimulate the exertions of the Government and citizens of every state. There can certainly be no object more worthy of the care of the local administration; and it were to be wished that there was no doubt of the power of the National Government to lend its direct aid on a comprehensive plan. This is one of those improvements which could be prosecuted with more efficacy by the whole than by any part or parts of the Union. There are cases in which the general interest will be in danger to be sacrificed to the collision of some supposed local interests. Jealousies in matters of this kind are as apt to exist as they are apt to be erroneous.—*Hamilton's Report on Manufactures, Works (1851 Ed.), III, pp. 255-57.*

He held to the same views in 1801, as may be seen from this extract:

The improvement of the communications between the different parts of the country is an object well worthy of the national purse and one which would abundantly repay to labor the portion of its earnings which may have been borrowed for that purpose. To provide roads and bridges is within the direct purview of the Constitution. In many parts of the country, especially in the Western Territory, a matter in which the Atlantic States are equally interested, aqueducts and canals would also be fit subjects of pecuniary aid from the Government.—*Hamilton's Works, VII, pp. 755-56.*

The improvement of the roads would be a measure universally popular. None can be more so. For this purpose a regular plan should be adopted co-extensive with the Union, to be successively executed, and a fund should be appropriated sufficient for the basis of a loan of a million of dollars. The revenue of the post office naturally offers itself. The future revenue from tolls would more than reimburse the expense, and public utility would be promoted in every direction. . . . An article ought to be proposed to be added to the Constitution for empowering Congress to open canals in all cases in which it may be necessary to conduct them through the territory of two or more States or through the territory of a State

and that of the United States. The power is very desirable for the purpose of improving the prodigious facilities for inland navigation with which nature has favored this country. It will also assist commerce and agriculture by rendering the transportation of commodities more cheap and expeditious. It will tend to secure the connection, by facilitating the communication between distant portions of the Union, and it will be a useful source of influence to the government.—*Hamilton's Works*, VI, pp. 385-87.

A committee in the House of Representatives reported, March 5, 1806, upon the Chesapeake and Delaware canal, that they "cannot hesitate a moment in deciding on the importance and extensive utility" of the canal.

They consider the project as an opening wedge for an extensive inland navigation which would at all times be of an immense advantage to the commercial as well as the agricultural and manufacturing parts of the community. But in the event of a war its advantages would be incalculable. . . . Did the finances of the country admit of it the committee would feel a perfect freedom in recommending . . . the propriety of . . . such aid. . . .—*American State Papers*, I, Miscellaneous, p. 452.

[The senate committee reported similarly the same year that] it is among the first duties of a Government to promote public improvements of a general nature.—*Ibid*, p. 454.

In Gallatin's famous report on roads and canals, made in 1807, we find the most complete discussion of the subject made in the early years of our history. In part he says:

The general utility of artificial roads and canals is at this time so universally admitted as hardly to require any additional proofs. It is sufficiently evident that whenever the annual expense of transportation on a certain route, in its natural state, exceeds the interest on the capital employed in improving the communication, and the annual expense of transportation (exclusively of the tolls) by the improved route, the difference is an annual additional income to the na-

tion. . . . Some works already executed are unprofitable; many more remain unattempted, because their ultimate productiveness depends on other improvements too extensive or too distant to be embraced by the same individuals. The General Government can alone remove these obstacles. With resources amply sufficient for the completion of every practicable improvement it will always supply the capital wanted for any work which it may undertake as fast as the work itself can progress; avoiding thereby the ruinous loss of interest on a dormant capital, and reducing the real expense to its lowest rate. . . . The inconveniences, complaints, and perhaps dangers, which may result from a vast extent of territory, can no otherwise be radically removed or prevented than by opening speedy and easy communications through all its parts. Good roads and canals will shorten distances, facilitate commercial and personal intercourse, and unite by a still more intimate community of interests the most remote quarters of the United States. No other single operation within the power of Government can more effectually tend to strengthen and perpetuate that Union which secures external independence, domestic peace, and internal liberty. . . . [The improvements he therefore suggests as] most important to facilitate the communication between the great geographical divisions of the United States [are: I, from north to south parallel to the seacoast, canals costing \$3 000,000, turnpikes costing \$4,800,000; II, from east to west forming communications across the mountains between the Atlantic and western rivers, improvement in Atlantic rivers costing \$1,500,000, turnpikes and road improvements costing \$3,000,000, canals costing \$300,000; III, improvements forming inland navigations between the Atlantic seacoast and the St. Lawrence and Great Lakes, \$4,000,000. This total of \$16,600,000 is also increased by \$3,400,000 for local improvements: a grand total of \$20,000,000, which it is proposed to accomplish in ten yearly payments of \$2,000,000 each. The public lands may be sold for the purpose and the improvements will, in turn, benefit the purchasers.]

It is evident that the United States cannot, under *the Constitution*, open any road or canal, without the

consent of the State through which such road or canal must pass. In order therefore to remove every impediment to a national plan of internal improvement, an amendment to the Constitution was suggested by the Executive when the subject was recommended to the consideration of Congress [by President Jefferson in Message 11]. Until this be obtained, the assent of the States being necessary for each improvement, the modifications under which that assent may be given, will necessarily control the manner of applying the money. . . . The United States may with the assent of the States undertake some of the works at their sole expense or they may subscribe a certain number of shares of the stock of companies incorporated for the purpose. Loans might also, in some instances, be made to such companies. The first mode would perhaps, by effectually controlling local interests, give the most proper general direction to the work. Its details would probably be executed on a more economical plan by private companies.—*American State Papers, I, Miscellaneous, pp. 724-25, 740-41.*

BENTON (Mo.), May 1, 1828, says:

He was in favor of the federal power to make roads and canals of national importance. . . . He was in favor of the construction of such roads and canals by the Federal Government provided the States through which they would pass consented to it . . .; not . . . that the consent of a State could confer a power upon Congress not derived from the Constitution; but it was decent and becoming to consult the wishes of the State in all such cases because its assent would do away with all that class of objections to the exercise of the power which were founded upon a real or supposed violation of State sovereignty and a real or supposed violation of State territory.—*Register Debates, IV, p. 718.*

CALHOUN (S. C.) speaks as follows in 1817:

[In times of peace and plenty] to what can we direct our resources and attention more important than internal improvements? What can add more to the wealth, the strength, and the political prosperity of our country? . . . It tends to diffuse universal op-

ulence. . . . When we come to consider how intimately the strength and political prosperity of the Republic are connected with this subject we find the most urgent reasons why we should apply our resources to them . . . Unless the means of commercial intercourse are rendered much more perfect than they now are we shall never be able in war to raise the necessary supplies . . . and the means by which that [policy] is to be effected are roads, canals, and the coasting trade. . . . But on this subject of national power what can be more important than a perfect unity in every part, in feelings and sentiments? And what can tend more powerfully to produce it than overcoming the effects of distance? . . . We are great, and rapidly—he was about to say fearfully growing. This, said he, is our pride and danger—our weakness and our strength. . . . Let us then . . . bind the Republic together with a perfect system of roads and canals. Let us conquer space *Annals of Congress, XXV, pp. 851-856.*

At about the same time, February 8, 1817, the House used this language

Upon mature consideration the facility of commercial and personal intercourse throughout the whole extent of the United States and its Territories is viewed by the committee, as it appears to have been viewed by former committees of both branches of the National Legislature, and by every Executive of the Government since its formation, as an essential ingredient in the general economy of the nation as well in relation to the pursuits of peace as to those of war and also to the perpetuation and integrity of the Republican Union —*American State Papers, II, Miscellaneous, p. 429.*

Madison vetoes a bill passed by Congress in 1817 to appropriate money for internal improvements, and justifies his veto, in part, in these words:

The legislative powers vested in Congress are specified and enumerated in the eighth section of the first article of the Constitution and it does not appear that power proposed by the bill ["An act to set apart

and pledge certain funds for internal improvements"] is among the enumerated powers or that it falls by any just interpretation within the power to make laws necessary and proper for carrying into execution those or other powers held by the Constitution in the Government of the United States. . . . If a general power to construct roads and canals and to improve the navigation of water courses, with the train of powers incident thereto, be not possessed by Congress, the assent of the States . . . cannot confer the power. [But while vetoing the bill he "cherishes the hope" that its beneficial objects may be attained by an amendment to the Constitution.] *Messages and Papers of the Presidents, I, pp 584-585.*

Monroe, in his "Views," May 4, 1822, summarized the arguments that have been advanced in favor of the constitutional power of Congress to act. He says:

The advocates of the power derive it from the following sources: First, the right to establish post-offices and post-roads; second, to declare war; third, to regulate commerce among the several States; fourth, from the power to pay the debts and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States; fifth, from the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying into execution all the powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any department or officer thereof; sixth and lastly, from the power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory and other property of the United States. [He denies all successively, his position as to each may be summarized as follows:

[No. 1. merely gives to Congress power to fix the sites of post-offices and the routes on which the mail may be carried.

No. 2, if allowed, would cover the entire country with roads which *might* be useful in time of war but most of which cannot possibly ever be connected with war transportation. And the influences from clause 17 of the Constitution and general reasoning are all against it.

No. 3. Such commercial powers were transferred to the United States whose exercise by the States had proved mischievous and irritating; internal improvements had nothing to do with these, but only the levying of duties and imposts.

No. 4 merely gives to Congress authority to appropriate the public moneys laid and collected by taxes, duties, imposts, and excises. It is the only clause in the Constitution directly giving the right of appropriation; it is evidently not given in class 1 as a distinct grant; if it were, then its vast extent swallows up all the rest of the Constitution and makes it useless. But this power of appropriation is not limited to expenditures under the other specific grants of the eighth section strictly constructed, but is broad, general, discretionary, yet always limited like the Government of the Union to "great national purposes." For internal improvements money might be *appropriated*, but this of itself can do nothing toward securing the land, jurisdiction, building and protecting the works.

No. 5 is of no value unless the power is primarily granted by one of the *other* powers.

No. 6 is shown by an historical argument to have nothing to do with the question.]—*Richardson's Messages and Papers of the Presidents, II, pp. 156-175.*

TRIMBLE (Ky.), January 21, 1825, says:

Public opinion was embodying itself in favor of roads and canals, and during the last year had made so many demonstrations in favor of internal improvements that Congress might consider itself called upon by the nation to begin the work in good earnest.—*Register of Debates, I, p. 319.*

BUCHANAN (Pa.), 1826, uses this language:

If there be any principle of constitutional law which, at this day, should be considered as settled, it is that Congress has the power to aid internal improvement by subscribing for stock in companies incorporated by the States—*Register of Debates, II, p. 1615.*

CLAY (Ky.), in 1825, considered the question as to the existence and the

exercise of a power in the General Government to carry into effect a system of internal improvements, as amounting to the question whether the union of these States should be preserved or not. . . . As to the opinion that the carrying on of these improvements belonged to the States in their individual and separate character, it might as well be expected that the States should perform any other duty which appertained to the General Government. You have no more right . . . to ask the individual States to make internal improvements for the general welfare than you have to ask them to make war for the general welfare or to build fortifications for the general defence. — *Register of Debates*, I, p. 231.

In Jackson's veto of the Maysville road appropriation, 1830, we read:

[The first possible line of objection would be upon the question of the sovereignty of the States within whose limits improvements are contemplated if jurisdiction of the territory be claimed by the General Government as necessary to the preservation and use of the improvements; the second would be upon the mere question of right to appropriate public moneys for such objects. So far the Government has never executed the first power—which it does not, in reality, possess. Long practice has sanctioned the second; but always] professedly under the control of the general principle that the works which might be thus aided should be "of a general, not local, national, not State," character. A disregard of this distinction would of necessity lead to the subversion of the federal system. That even this is an unsafe one, arbitrary in its nature, and liable, consequently, to great abuses, is too obvious to require the confirmation of experience. Assuming the right to appropriate money to aid in the construction of national works to be warranted by the contemporaneous and continued exposition of the Constitution, its insufficiency for the successful prosecution of them must be admitted by all candid minds. [Whether to enable the Federal Government itself to construct the improvements, or to define the occasion, manner, and extent of its appropriations to works prosecuted by the States, it is

true] that a constitutional adjustment of this power upon equitable principles is in the highest degree desirable, . . . nor can it fail to be promoted by every sincere friend to the success of our political institutions.—*Messages and Papers of the Presidents, II, pp. 483-93.*

Jackson's message of December 1, 1834, said:

When the bill authorizing a subscription . . . in the Maysville & Lexington Turnpike Co. passed the two houses, there had been reported by the Committee on Internal Improvements bills containing appropriations for such objects, exclusive of those for the Cumberland road and for harbors and light-houses, to the amount of about 106,000,000 of dollars. In this amount was included authority . . . to subscribe for the stock of different companies to a great extent, and the residue was principally for the direct construction of roads by this Government. In addition to these projects which had been presented . . . there were still pending before the committees and in memorials presented, but not refused, different projects . . . the expenses of which . . . must have exceeded 100,000,000 of dollars. . . .

Since the Maysville veto "no attempt . . . has been made to induce Congress to exercise this power. The applications for the construction of roads and canals . . . are no longer presented; and we have good reason to infer that the consent of public sentiment has become so decided against the pretension as effectually to discourage its reassertion."—*Messages and Papers of the Presidents, III, pp. 120-21.*

Polk, in his veto, 1847, uses these words:

It is not easy to perceive the difference in principle or mischievous tendency between appropriations for making roads and digging canals and appropriations to deepen rivers and improve harbors. All are alike within the limits and jurisdiction of the States. . . . If the power to improve a harbor be admitted it is not easy to perceive how the power to deepen every inlet on the ocean or the lakes and make harbors where there are none can be denied. If the power to clear out or deepen the channel of rivers near their mouths be admitted, it is not easy to perceive how the

power to improve them to their fountain head and make them navigable to their sources can be denied . . . May the General Government exercise power and jurisdiction over the soil of a State consisting of rocks and sandbars in the beds of its rivers? and may it not execute a canal around its waterfalls or across its lands for precisely the same object? *Ibid* V, pp. 612-614

Buchanan, in his veto of 1860, adds:

The distinctive spirit and character which pervades the Constitution is that the powers of the General Government are confined . . . to subjects of common interest to all the States, carefully leaving the internal and domestic concerns of each individual State to be controlled by its own people and legislature. . . . Besides, the corrupting and seducing money influence exerted by the General Government in carrying into effect a system of internal improvements might be perverted to increase and consolidate its own power to the detriment of the rights of the States. . . . Equality among the States is equity. This quality is the very essence of the Constitution. No preference can justly be given to one of the sovereign States over another . . . The truth is most of these improvements are in a great degree local in their character and for the particular benefit of corporations or individuals in their vicinity, though they may have an odor of nationality on the principle that whatever benefits any part indirectly benefits the whole. Article I, section 10, paragraph 3, affords a perfectly legitimate mode of acquiring the improvements, in a constitutional manner, by the States.—*Ibid*, V, pp. 602-5.

QUESTIONS.

1. How would the Americans feel towards the law of 1699? 2. Why was bar iron to be imported from America? 3. How would it be helpful to the colonists? 4. Why were the colonists not to manufacture the bar iron into steel? 5. What was to be done with the American mills? 6. How would such laws as these make the colonists feel in regard to the restrictive system?

1. What argument does Franklin use to secure the retention of Canada? 2. What industry does Franklin evidently prefer? 3. What condition results where

manufactures prevail? 4. How does Franklin feel toward the restrictive system? 5. Compare the ideas of Franklin and Jefferson. 6. Why could manufactures succeed in America? 7. Did the statesmen, judged by the ones cited, believe in restraints and discriminations? 8. How would you account for their views? 9. How did they feel after about 1786? 10. Explain the reasons for the change. 11. Did the statesmen like the change or were they forced to make it?

1. Did Hamilton believe in protection as a general principle? 2. What arguments did he give for protection? 3. What plans did Hamilton propose to encourage manufactures? 4. What position would he probably take now were he living? 5. Outline the plan of Mr. Dallas. 6. To what class of products did he propose to give aid? 7. Why not aid *class three*?

1. What principle did Webster advocate in 1824? 2. What principle did Clay? 3. What condition was the country in according to Clay; to Webster? 4. What remedy did Clay propose for the distress? 5. How would Clay now have to argue in regard to England? 6. Why had England been prosperous, according to Clay, to Webster? 7. What interest was Clay especially speaking for? What Webster? 8. How do you explain the fact that the two men differed so radically both in regard to fact and theory? 9. What new idea does Gallatin bring in? 10. What does he claim protection must accomplish to be beneficial? 11. Name the arguments Dallas makes. 12. Who made, in your opinion, the ablest argument? Why?

1. What good did Washington expect from internal improvements? 2. How did Jefferson expect to join the west to the east? 3. Did he believe in the general government undertaking a system of internal improvements? 4. Compare Jefferson's and Hamilton's views. 5. On which side was Gallatin? 6. Was Calhoun, in 1817, a nationalist or a States Rights man, judging from the extract given? 7. Make a list of all the arguments you find for internal improvements; another list of those against. 8. Into how many classes did Jackson divide internal improvements? 9. In what ways was it claimed the nation might aid internal improvements? 10. Can you give the reasons for so many vetoes of bills for internal improvements? 11. Write a paper on the benefits of a system of internal improvements. 12. Write one on the dangers of it.

CHRONOLOGY

- 1492. Discovery of America.
- 1497. The Cabots on the coast of North America.
- 1513. Florida discovered. The Pacific Ocean first seen.
- 1519-22. First circumnavigation of the world
- 1519-21 The Mississippi discovered by De Soto.
- 1565. Florida settled by Spaniards.
- 1584-87. Sir Walter Raleigh's attempt at colonization.
- 1607 Jamestown settled. Captain John Smith.
- 1608. Quebec founded by French.
- 1609. Hudson river discovered by Dutch.
- 1619. House of Burgesses. Slaves introduced into Virginia.
- 1620. Pilgrims land at Plymouth.
- 1630. Boston founded.
- 1634. Maryland settled. Religious toleration.
- 1636 Harvard college founded. Roger Williams settles Rhode Island. Pequot war
- 1638. New Haven founded; Swedes settled Delaware.
- 1639. First written Constitution "Fundamental Orders" of Connecticut.
- 1643. New England Confederacy
- 1656-61. Persecution of Quakers in Massachusetts.
- 1664. New York captured by the English.
- 1665. English settle New Jersey.
- 1675. King Philip's war.
- 1676. Bacon's rebellion.
- 1682. Pennsylvania founded by Penn.
- 1691. Massachusetts New Charter. Leisler executed
- 1692. William and Mary College founded Witchcraft delusion.
- 1701. Yale College founded.
- 1704. Boston News Letter First American newspaper.
- 1718. New Orleans founded by the French.
- 1733. Oglethorpe founds Savannah, Ga.
- 1746. College of New Jersey, Princeton founded.
- 1743. University of Pennsylvania founded.
- 1754. Albany convention.
- 1754-63. French and Indian war.
- 1759. Wolfe takes Quebec.
- 1763. Peace of Paris; Canada gained by English. Mason and Dixon's Line.

1765. Stamp Act Congress; Patrick Henry's resolutions, "Sons of Liberty"
1766. Repeal of Stamp Act; The Declaratory Act.
1767. Townshend Revenue Act, Dickinson's Farmer's Letters.
1768. British Troops in Boston
1770. Repeal Townshend Act. "Boston Massacre."
1771. Tryon's war in North Carolina.
1772. The "Gaspee" burned; Committees of Correspondence in Massachusetts.
1773. Boston "Tea Party," Intercolonial Committees of Correspondence
1774. Boston Port Bill; Massachusetts Charter Bill; Quartering Troops; Quebec Act; First Continental Congress.
1775. War begins; Lexington; Concord; Second Continental Congress. Washington, Commander-in-Chief; Bunker Hill.
1776. Declaration of Independence; Boston evacuated; Americans defeated at New York and in New Jersey; Trenton, "Common Sense" by Thos. Paine.
1777. Surrender of Burgoyne; Articles of Confederation sent to the States, "Valley Forge."
1778. France makes treaty with States. George Rogers Clark in Illinois, etc.
1779. War in South.
1780. War in South; Arnold's treason; André; Gen. Green.
1781. Cornwallis surrenders. Robert Morris head of finances. Confederacy completed. Bank of North America.
1783. Treaty of peace
1784. First Ordinance for Northwest Territory.
1785. Maryland and Virginia Commissions meet
1786. Annapolis Convention.
1787. Constitutional Convention. "Ordinance of 1787."
1788. Constitution ratified by ten states
1789. Government under the new Constitution begun. Washington President. North Carolina ratifies the Constitution.
1790. Rhode Island accepts the Constitution.
1791. Ten Amendments adopted. Bank chartered. Parties formed. Kentucky a State. Assumption.
1792. Columbia river discovered. French Republic established. Vermont a State.
1793. Genet and neutrality. Cotton gin. Fugitive Slave Law.
1794. Whiskey Insurrection. Jay's Treaty
1795. Excitement over Jay Treaty, Treaty with Spain.

- 1796. "Posts" delivered Washington's Farewell Address. Tennessee a State.
- 1797. John Adams President.
- 1798. X. Y. Z. affair; Alien Laws; Sedition Law; Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions.
- 1799. Kentucky Resolutions. Army Intrigue. Washington dies
- 1800. Treaty with France. Washington City becomes the Capitol. Jefferson-Burr contest.
- 1801. Jefferson President.
- 1802. Ohio a State.
- 1803. Louisiana purchase.
- 1804. Lewis and Clark expedition. XII Amendment.
- 1805-6. The Burr Conspiracy.
- 1806. Orders in Council. Berlin Decree.
- 1807. "Chesapeake" and "Leopard." Embargo.
- 1808. Slave trade illegal.
- 1809. Non-Intercourse substituted for Embargo. Madison President.
- 1810. "Macon Bill No. 1"
- 1811. "Tippecanoe"
- 1812. War declared. Louisiana a State.
- 1813. War, Perry's Victory.
- 1814. The Hartford Convention. Washington burned. Treaty of Peace signed.
- 1815. January 4, the Hartford Convention adjourned. January 8, Jackson's victory at New Orleans. Unitarian secession from Congregational Church.
- 1816. Second National Bank chartered. Dallas' report on manufactures. Tariff act passed; generally regarded as the first protective tariff. American "Colonization Society" founded. Caucus system for nominating presidential candidates breaking down. National debt, \$127,335,000. Calhoun's "bank bonus bill" for internal improvements introduced. Monroe elected President and Tompkins Vice-President, by 183 electoral votes, to 34 for King. Indiana admitted as a state.
- 1817. Monroe's tour through New England and the West. All internal taxes repealed. Specie payments resumed. The Seminole War in Florida begins. Madison vetoes an internal improvement bill. Mississippi admitted as a state. The "Savannah" the first steamship to cross the Atlantic.
- 1817-20. Old party names pass out of use. Local issues take the place of national Speculation, followed by the first great crisis.
- 1818. Connecticut adopts a new constitution. Jackson invades Florida. Hangs Ambrister and Arbuthnot; thus involves the United States

- with England. Clay attacks Jackson in Congress. Increase of tariff on iron. Treaty with Great Britain. Fisheries, boundary, Oregon and commercial questions provided for. Illinois admitted as a state.
1819. Florida bought from Spain for \$5,000,000. Struggle over the admission of Missouri begins. Arkansas organized as a Territory, with slavery. The crisis of 1819-21 begins. The National bank investigated. Specie payments again suspended, except in New England. The Supreme Court in *McCullough vs. Maryland* decides the National Bank law constitutional. The famous Dartmouth College case, and Webster's plea, held that Charters are contracts. An act against the slave trade. Alabama admitted as a state. University of Virginia chartered.
1820. The slave trade declared piracy. Liberia founded. The first (?) Missouri compromise. In Louisiana territory slavery to be forbidden north of latitude $36^{\circ} 30'$. Missouri enabling act passed. A constitution to be formed with or without slavery as its people wished. Monroe re-elected President and only one opposing vote. Maine admitted as a state. Population, U. S. 9,633,822.
 (1) Free States, 5,132,000; (2) Slave States, 4,522,000.
 Representatives in Congress: (1) Free States, 133; (2) Slave States, 90.
1821. The second (?) Missouri compromise, Clay's. Missouri admitted as a state. The Florida treaty ratified by Spain. New York forms a new constitution; extends suffrage. Intrigues for presidency, in 1824, begin. Crawford and Adams most prominent candidates. Jackson governor of Florida.
1822. Monroe vetoes the Cumberland road bill. Jackson comes forward as a presidential candidate.
- 1818-22. The independence of the Spanish American states recognized by the United States.
1823. The so-called Monroe doctrine set forth. The "Holy Alliance" baffled in its American plans. Monroe's letter against the internal improvement plans and ideas of the times.
1824. The tariff rates increased; protection extended. The great Webster-Clay debate over protection. The last Congressional caucus to nominate presidential candidates. Crawford nominated for President by the caucus; Adams, Clay and Jackson by the

state legislatures. Pennsylvania suggests a national nominating convention. Not carried out till 1831. Lafayette visits America. No choice by electors for president.

(1) Jackson, 99; (2) Adams, 84, (3) Crawford, 41; (4) Clay, 37.

1825. In Congress Clay's followers support Adams.

(1) Adams, 13 states; (2) Jackson, 7 states; (3) Crawford, 4 states.

Cry of "bargain and sale" raised. University of Virginia opened. Clay becomes Secretary of State. Adams urges internal improvements and a national university. The Erie canal opened. Webster's "Bunker Hill" oration. The Panama Congress. Clay's "Human Freedom League" to oppose the "Holy Alliance" proposed.

1826. Duel between Clay and Randolph. Trouble with Creek Indians in Georgia. July 4, Adams and Jefferson die. American Temperance Society at Boston.

1827. Congress in opposition to President Adams. Difficulties with England settled by Gallatin.

1828. Candidates for presidency nominated by state legislatures and mass conventions. The "tariff of abominations." Webster this year, for the first time, supports protection. The triumph of "the people" in the election of Jackson. Anti-Mason excitement. The disappearance of Morgan. South Carolina dissatisfied with the tariff law.

1829. Jackson's inauguration; popular demonstration. Jackson and Biddle begin the bank struggle. The "Kitchen cabinet." The "spoils system" introduced into national politics. The real beginning of railroads in the United States.

1830. The Maysville road veto by Jackson. The tariff bill modified; protection retained. Webster-Hayne debate. Nullification doctrine set forth. B. & O. railroad opened. Population 12,866,020.

1831. Jackson reorganizes his cabinet, and breaks with Calhoun. The Seminole controversy. The Nat Turner insurrection in Virginia. Abolition societies organized. The first national nominating convention. Garrison begins the "Liberator."

1832. The bank veto. Monopoly denounced. Jackson re-elected. Tariff act; again protection sustained. The Anti-Masons enter national politics. The first one-idea party. Nullification ordinance by South Carolina. Jackson

- issues his proclamation against nullification. Charles Carroll, the last of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, dies.
1833. The "force bill". Clay's compromise tariff bill. South Carolina withdraws her nullification act. The Webster-Calhoun debate. Jackson at his zenith. October 1, "removal of the deposits." Clay's land distribution bill vetoed. National abolition society organized.
1834. "Censure" of the president by the senate. The hard-money struggle; Benton. The Whig party formed and named. McCormick's reaping machine patented.
1835. Mob spirit everywhere; especially against abolitionists and catholics. National debt paid off. The "loco-focos." Prudence Crandall's school for colored girls closed. Struggle over "incendiary matter" in the mails. Indians of Georgia removed to Indian Territory.
1836. "Gag" resolutions in Congress against reception of "abolition" petitions. J. Q. Adams begins his great struggle for the "right of petition." Bill for "distribution of the surplus" \$36,000,000, among the states. July 4, death of Madison. Van Buren elected president. Texas wins the victory of San Jacinto. The "specie circular" issued. Arkansas admitted as a state.
1837. The "expunging resolutions" adopted. Texas independence recognized. The United States presses for a settlement of her "claims" against Mexico. The great crisis and panic; speculation collapses. Van Buren for the "independent" or "sub-treasury." E. P. Lovejoy murdered. First proposal to annex Texas. Michigan admitted as a state.
1838. Continued troubles on the Canadian frontier. Smithsonian Institution founded.
1839. Trouble in organizing the House. The New Jersey seats. The "Amstutz" case. The Daguerreotype first used in the United States.
- 1835-42. Era of "isms." Fourierism, homoeopathy, hydropathy, the Graham diet, phrenology, etc. Transcendentalism, Emerson, Thoreau, Margaret Fuller, Hawthorne, etc.
1840. The "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" campaign. Election of Harrison, on "hard cider and log-cabin cry." Sub-treasury act passed. The Liberty party first appears in a national contest. Population, 17,069,453.

- 1830-40. A real American literature beginning to appear. Cheap newspapers, the Sun, 1833; the Herald, 1835; the Tribune, 1841, etc.
1841. Utter collapse of the "Second National Bank" and President Harrison's death. Sub-treasury act repealed. Clay and Tyler in opposition. Tyler and his cabinet quarrel over Tyler's bank vetoes.
1842. The Ashburton Webster treaty. Protective tariff law enacted. State debts repudiated. Dickens visits America. The Dorr rebellion in Rhode Island. Dr. Whitman travels on horseback from Oregon to St. Louis.
1843. Webster resigns as Secretary of State.
1844. Treaty of Annexation with Texas, rejected by the Senate. Clay defeated by Polk for president. The telegraph first used, Baltimore to Washington. The Democratic campaign cry, "54 40' or fight."
1845. Joint resolution for annexing Texas. Polk's four great measures announced to Bancroft; Tariff reduction, acquisition of California, the independent or sub-treasury restored. Oregon boundary settled; all accomplished. Florida admitted as a state. Texas admitted as a state.
1846. The independent treasury act passed. The Oregon boundary line settled. A treaty with Great Britain. California and New Mexico seized. The so called free-trade tariff passed. The "Wilmot-Proviso" proposed. Howe invents the sewing machine. Iowa admitted as a state.
1847. Victories over Mexico. Renown of Taylor and Scott. Lincoln first appears in national politics. Douglas' first term in the Senate.
1848. Taylor elected over Cass. The "Free Soil" movement; Van Buren its candidate. Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. February 23, J. Q. Adams dies. Calhoun asserts right of slaveholder to take his slave into any territory of the United States. Discovery of gold in California. The Mormons emigrate to Utah. Wisconsin admitted as a state.
1849. Struggle in Congress continues over organization of the territories. Rush to gold fields of California.
1850. Webster's "7th of March" speech. Seward's "Higher Law" speech, March 11. Clay's compromise adopted. California a free state. Slave trade in District of Columbia ended. Texas boundary settled. Texas paid \$10,000,000. Utah and New Mexico territories with-

- out specification as regards slavery. Fugitive slave law. The Clayton-Bulwer treaty. Death of President Taylor. Fugitive slave excitement begins. Population, 23,191,876.
1851. "Filibusterers" invade Cuba. Letter postage reduced to three cents. Disunion threatened. Visit of Kossuth. Webster's Hulseman letter. Maine liquor law.
1852. Scott and Pierce. The "Tweedle-Dee and Tweedle Dum" campaign. Scott carried only four states, Kentucky and Tennessee, Massachusetts and Vermont. Clay and Webster die. "Uncle Tom's Cabin."
1853. The Koszta difficulty. The Gadsden purchase.
1854. The Kansas Nebraska bill. Douglas urges his "popular sovereignty" doctrine. "Filibustering" against Cuba. The Know-Nothings come into being. The Republican party organized. The "Ostend Manifesto." The struggle begins in Kansas. Treaty with Japan.
1855. Personal liberty laws in northern states. The "New England Colonization" society. Missouri invades Kansas. Banks elected speaker of the House.
1856. Wm. Walker in Nicaragua. Sumner assaulted by Brooks. Whigs and Americans nominate Fillmore. Republicans nominate Fremont. Democrats nominate and elect Buchanan. The first geographical party campaign. Sack of Lawrence, Kansas. Threats of disunion should Fremont be elected.
1857. March 6, the Dred Scott Decision. The Lecompton constitution. Douglas breaks with Buchanan. The new Tariff Act. Duties lowered. The panic and crisis.
1858. Rebellion in Utah. Atlantic Cable laid. The Lincoln-Douglas debate. Seward's "irrepressible conflict" speech at Rochester. Minnesota admitted as a state.
1859. John Brown invades Virginia. Election of Speaker. Helper's "Impending Crisis." Great Excitement in Congress. Oregon admitted as a state.
1860. Lincoln and the Republicans. No slave extension. Douglas and "Popular Sovereignty" Democrats. Bell and the "Union." Breckinridge and slave extension. Secession ordinance passed by South Carolina. Various plans for compromise. J. J. Crittenden. Population, 31,443,321.
1861. The Peace Conference; all plans fail. Davis elected President of the Southern Confed-

- eracy. Attack on Sumpter. War. Kansas admitted as a state. Lincoln inaugurated.
1862. The "Monitor."
1863. Emancipation proclamation. National Bank Act. Gettysburg. Draft riots.
1864. Lincoln re-elected. Maryland abolishes slavery. Confederacy split by Sherman.
1865. War ends; Assassination of Lincoln; Johnson President. Thirteenth Amendment.
1866. Atlantic Cable.
1867. Alaska bought.
1868. Impeachment of President Johnson. Fourteenth Amendment adopted.
1869. Grant President. Pacific railroad completed.
1870. Fifteenth Amendment. Treaty for San Domingo. Population, 38,558,371.
1871. All states again in Congress. Chicago fire. The Washington Treaty.
1872. Geneva Award. Boston fire.
1873. Panic.
1876. The Centennial at Philadelphia. Colorado a state.
1877. Electoral Commission, Hayes President. Railway strike.
1878. Bland Silver Bill.
1879. Specie payments resumed.
1880. Population, 50,155,783.
1881. Garfield President—assassinated; Arthur President.
1883. Civil Service Act. Letter postage two cents.
1885. Cleveland President.
1887. Inter-State Commerce Act.
1889. Harrison President.
1890. Population, 62,622,250.
1893. Columbian Fair. Cleveland President.
1897. McKinley President.
1898. Spanish War. Hawaii annexed.
1899. Annexation of Islands.



American Territorial Development

SOURCE EXTRACTS

BY

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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
J. H. MILLER, PUBLISHER
1900

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PREFACE

FEW questions have been more fundamental in American history than those connected with its territorial development. Some of the most exciting debates that ever took place in Congress were connected with this subject. In fact it will perhaps ultimately be found that nearly all the great political, social, industrial, and economic questions of our history may be unified more perfectly by connecting them with the frontier and the territorial development of the country than from any other point of view. Professor Von Holst has made us almost believe that the grouping should be around the question of slavery. However, much may be said in favor of another view. It may be found that slavery itself was only an episode in the opening up of a new country to habitation and civilization. Certainly slavery only became a national question when it became connected with the territorial issue. The admission of Missouri in 1820 was fought over so strenuously because of the existence of a vast empire of unoccupied country. Other illustrations of a similar nature might be



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The general reader has also

drawn from other periods of our national history, but space does not permit calling attention to them in this connection.

Now if we turn to other important questions in our history we find even more conclusive proofs of their close and intimate connection with the territorial problem. Nearly the whole of the contests concerning internal improvements may be directly connected with the territorial acquisitions. The recent annexations promise to lead to a new application of this principle in the way of building up a great marine, and the construction of great Inter-Oceanic canals. Many phases of the tariff discussions may be found to be directly involved in this subject, and just at the present moment the political campaign of the year hinges in part on this aspect of the question. The money problem has always been to a greater or less degree connected with an east and a west, an old and a new section, a well-settled and a frontier region. But the frontier has ever been advancing westward by the annexation of new territory.

These suggestions are perhaps enough to arouse a further interest in this subject if there be any need to increase its intensity. The real danger, if there be one, lies not in a lack of interest, but in a failure to appreciate its fundamental character. Precedents will be cited without due investigation to determine whether the cases are similar. Conclusions

will be drawn from false or imperfect data. Then if it be true that the very basis of all American life may be said to be found in its territorial development, does it not become us as American citizens to get as much light on the subject as possible?

The following studies on the first boundaries of the United States, and then of the origin of the National territory, and of its development by acquisition from time to time do not claim to be a complete presentation of the subject. For the investigator who desires to go to the bottom of the idea, they will be of value only as a suggestion. They were not prepared primarily for such. They were made with the high school and lower classmen in college in mind. It is believed that these studies may be used either as a basis for work supplemented by narrative texts, or they may themselves be made supplementary to the text placed in the hands of the pupil. In this connection I desire to make one suggestion to my fellow teachers, or perhaps rather to ask them a question. Do you believe it wise, and do you consider it pedagogically sound, to go over the work in the high school in the same way and from the same point of view as in the grades? Now, if the grade work has been from a narrative text in whole or in the main, why not vary the plan by using, very largely, source extracts when the course is repeated in the high schools? The general reader has also

had a thought, so it is hoped that this little work may pass into the hands of many who otherwise would have no way to secure so much direct and primary material as is here given.

An earnest attempt has been made to select typical material. The aim at least has been an honest one. The reader is then asked to approach the subject in the same candid spirit, and judge accordingly.

COLONIAL CLAIMS

America discovered by Columbus, 1492. Spain secures Florida, 1565. French in Canada, 1605. English at Jamestown, 1607. Dutch in New York, 1613. Swedes in Delaware, 1638. English conquer Dutch in New York, New Jersey, etc., 1664. French found New Orleans, 1718. Canada passes to England, 1763. Florida acquired by England, 1763. Independence declared, 1776

CHAPTER I

ECOLONIAL CLAIMS

THE studies this year will have to do with the territorial development of the United States. The aim will be to make choice of such extracts as will tell the story of the formation of the original area, and its subsequent expansion to its present limits. Extracts from letters, from state papers, from diplomatic correspondence, and from speeches will give the results of wars, and of treaties which have had to do with determining acquisitions and boundaries.

In this first number an attempt will be made to give the basis for the claims of the various nations holding some portion of our present territory. Then a brief account will be presented of the struggle by the various European nations for the possession of what is now the United States. Some of the arguments for the various claims will follow. The importance of the different sections of the country as seen by contemporaries, will be of great interest to us as showing how far and well they could see into the future.

Matter for this first number is perhaps a little unsatisfactory. In the first place our ancestors were so prolific of words that it is

almost impossible to find a statement of the various claims that is condensed enough to be used in our little papers. In general even a grant of land, or a claim by a nation of a certain section will be so long drawn out that no use can be made of it, as a whole. But again their sentences were so long that they are rarely separable so as to quote the essential parts. Even treaties were so voluminous that only a little—very often too little to make it definite—can be used to advantage. In the second place much of the matter itself is vague, and whole documents have to be used to get at the essence, or even at the meaning at all. Finally some documents that I should like to use are inaccessible. It is a pleasure to say that for the remaining numbers the available material is not only abundant, but it is also of the greatest value and interest. It is hoped that even this first number may make the beginnings of our domain, while we were yet English subjects, more vivid than it has been when pupil and teacher were mainly or wholly confined to some mere statement of the early territorial claims.

Something will be found concerning Spanish, French, Dutch, Swedish and English discoveries and explorations, hence claims. Again there will appear before us those who were contending for mastery in the various sections of North America. The extensions and contractions of possessions will be called to our notice by extracts from those who were taking part in

the drama which finally decided that this continent should be held and developed under the guidance of the English race and language; that its institutions should be Teutonic rather than Celtic; that its religion should at first be Protestant, and then finally free for each man to decide according to his own conscience.

1. CLAIMANTS. BASIS,—DISCOVERY AND
EXPLORATION.

(1.) *Spain.*

Columbus to Ferdinand and Isabella. Written 1492:

. . . Your Highness, as Catholic Christians, and princes who love and promote the holy Christian faith, . . . determined to send me, Christopher Columbus, to the above mentioned countries of India, . . . to learn their dispositions and the proper method of converting them to our holy faith; and, furthermore, directed that I should not proceed by land to the East as is customary, but by a Westerly route. . . . Hereupon, . . . I set sail from the port, on Friday the the third of August, half an hour before sunrise, and steered for the Canary Islands, . . . thence to take my departure and proceed till I arrived at the Indies . . . —*Ford, Writings of Columbus, pp. 27, 31.*

Columbus to Raphael Sanchez, 1493, Treasurer of Ferdinand and Isabella:

Knowing that it will afford you pleasure to learn that I have brought my undertakings to a successful termination, I have decided upon writing you this letter to acquaint you with all the events which have occurred in my voyage, and the discoveries which have resulted from it. Thirty-three days after my departure from Cadiz I reached the Indian sea, where I discovered many islands thickly peopled, of which I took possession without resistance, in the name of our most

illustrious monarch, by public proclamation and with unfurled banner. . . . —*Ford, Life of Columbus* pp. 33, 34.

(2.) *France.*

The voyage of Verrazzano, 1524:

Since the tempests which we encountered on the northern coasts, I have not written to your most Serene and Christian Majesty concerning the four ships sent out by your orders to discover new lands . . .

On the 17th of last January we set sail from a desolate rock near the island of Madeira. . . . Sailing westward, . . . we reached a new country which had never been seen by anyone, either in ancient or modern times. . . .

Taking our departure as I before observed from the above mentioned desert rocks, . . . and in the latitude of 32 degrees north from the equator, and steering a western course, we had run when we first made land a distance of 1200 leagues, or 4800 miles. . . . But to return to ourselves; in the voyage which we have made by order of your Majesty, in addition to the 92 degrees we run toward the west from our point of departure, before we reached land in the latitude of 34, we have to count 300 leagues which we ran north-eastwardly, and 400 nearly east along the coast before we reached the 50th parallel of north latitude, the point where we turned our course from the shore towards home. . . . —*Old South Leaflets No. 17*

Discovery of the Mississippi. Account by Father James Marquette, 1673:

I embarked with M. Joliet, who has been chosen to conduct this enterprise, on the 13th of May 1673, with five other Frenchmen in two bark canoes. . . . Before embarking we all offered up prayers to the holy Virgin, which we continued to do every morning, placing ourselves and the events of the journey under her protection, and after having encouraged each other, we got into our canoes. The river upon which we embarked is called Mesconsin (Wisconsin) the river is very wide but the sand bars make it very difficult to

navigate, which is increased by numerous islands covered with grape vines. . . . After having rowed ten leagues further, making forty leagues from the place where we had embarked, we came into the Mississippi on the 17th of June (1673). . . . We continued to descend the river, not knowing where we were to go, and having made a hundred leagues without seeing anything but wild beasts and birds, and being on our guard we landed at night to make our fire and prepare our repast, and then left the shore to anchor in the river, while one of us watched by turns to prevent a surprise. We went south and south-west until we found ourselves in about the latitude of 40° and some minutes, having rowed more than sixty leagues since we entered the river. . . . We descended the river looking for another called Pekitanoni (Missouri), which runs from the north-west into the Mississippi, of which I will speak more hereafter. . . . As we fell down the river, and while we were discoursing upon these monsters we heard a great rushing and bubbling of waters, and small islands of floating trees coming from the mouth of the Pekitanoni (Missouri), with such rapidity that we could not trust ourselves to go near it. The water of this river is so muddy we could not drink it. It so discolors the Mississippi as to make the navigation of it dangerous. This river comes from the northwest, and empties into the Mississippi, and on its banks are situated a number of Indian villages. We judged by the compass, that the Mississippi discharged itself into the gulf of Mexico. It would, however, have been more agreeable if it had discharged itself into the South Sea, or Gulf of California. . . . Having satisfied ourselves that the Gulf of Mexico was in latitude $31^{\circ} 40'$, and that we could reach it in three or four day's journey from the Akansea (Arkansas River), and that the Mississippi discharged itself into it, and not to the eastward of the Cape of Florida, nor into the California Sea, we resolved to return home. . . . We then ascended the Mississippi with great difficulty against the current and left it in the latitude of 38° north, to enter another river (Illinois), which took us to the lake

of the Illinois (Michigan), which is a much shorter way than through the river Mesconsin (Wisconsin) by which we entered the Mississippi. . . . *Hart, American History Told by Contemporaries, Vol. I, pp. 136-40.*

(3) *England.*

The Voyages of the Cabots :

Henry, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and lord of Ireland, to all whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

Be it known that we have given and granted, to our wel-beloved John Cabot citizen of Venice, . . . full and free authority, leave, and power to saile to all parts, countreys, and seas of the East, of the West, and of the North, under our banners and ensignes . . . to seek out and discover, and finde whatsoever isles, countreys, regions or province of the heathen and infidels whatsoever they be, and in what part of the world soever they be, which before this time have been unknowen to all Christians. . . . and have given them licence to set up our banners and ensignes in every village, towne, castle, isle, or maine land of them newly found. . . . Witness our selfe at Westminster the fift day of March in the eleventh yeere of our reigne [1497]. . . *Old South Leaflet No. 37; Hakluyt I, p. 23*

Extracts from a map of Sebastian Cabot :

In the year of our Lord 1497 John Cabot a Venetian, and his sonne Sebastian . . . discovered that land which no man before that time had attempted, on the 24 of June, (July?) about five of the clock early in the morning. . . . *Hakluyt; Voyages of the English Nation to America, Vol. I, p. 24.*

Letter from Lorenzo Pasqualigo to his brothers Alvise and Francesco :

LONDON, August 23d, 1497.

Our Venetian, who went with a small ship from Bristol to find new islands, has come back, and says he has discovered, 700 leagues off, the mainland of the country of the Grau Cam, and that he coasted along

it for 300 leagues, and landed, but did not see anybody. But he has brought here to the king certain snares spread to take game, and a needle for taking nets, and he found some notched trees, from which he judged that there were inhabitants. Being in doubt he came back to the ship. He has been away three months on the voyage, which is certain, and, in returning, he saw two islands to the right, but he did not wish to land, lest he should lose time, for he was in want of provisions. This king has been much pleased. He says that the tides are slack, and do not make currents as they do here. The king has promised for another time, ten armed ships as he desires; and has given him all the prisoners, except such as are confined for high treason, to go with him as he has requested; and has granted him money to amuse himself till then. Meanwhile he is with his Venetian wife and his sons at Bristol. His name is Zuam Tulbot, and he is called the great admiral, great honor being paid him, and he goes dressed in silk. The English are ready to go with him, and so are many of our rascals. The discoverer of these things has planted a large cross in the ground with a banner of England, and one of St. Mark, as he is a Venetian; so that our flag has been hoisted very far away *Hart I, pp. 69 70.*

First Voyage to Virginia, by Captain Arthur Barlowe, 1584:

The 27th day of April, in the yeere of our redemption, 1584 we departed the West of England, with two barkes well furnished with men and victuals. . . . The second of July, we found shole water, where we smelt so sweet and so strong a smel, as if we had been in the midst of some delicate garden abounding with all kinde of odoriferous flowers, by which we were assured, that the land could not be farre distant: and keeping good watch, and bearing the slacke saile, the fourth of the same month we arrived upon the coast, which we supposed to be a continent and firm land, and we sayled along the same a hundred and twentie English miles before we could finde any entrance, or river issuing into the Sea . . . The soile is the

most plentiful, sweete, fruitfull, and wholesome of all the world: there are about fourteene seuerall sweete smelling timber trees, and the most of their underwoods are Bayes, and such like: . . . And whereas we haue certified you of the countrey taken in possession by us, to her Majesties use, and to yours by her Majesties grant, wee thought good for the better assurance thereof, to record some of the particular Gentlemen, & men of accompt, who then were present, as witnesses of the same. -*Hart I, pp 89-95.*

(4) *The Netherlands: Holland.*

Act of the States General of Netherlands,
1614.

. . . Greeting. BE IT KNOWN, Whereas We understand it would be honorable, serviceable and profitable to this Country, and for the promotion of its prosperity, as well as for the maintenance of sea faring people, that the good Inhabitants should be excited and encouraged to employ and occupy themselves in seeking out and discovering Passages, Havens, Countries and places that have not before now been discovered and frequented; . . . Therefore, We . . .

. . . grant and consent hereby that whosoever any new Passages, Havens, Countries or Places shall from now henceforth discover, shall alone resort to the same or cause them to be frequented for four voyages, . . .
—*Documents relating to the Colonial History of New York, Vol. I, p. 5.*

Resolution of the States General on the Report of the Discovery of New Netherland.

Appeared at the Assembly the Deputies from the United Company of Merchants who have discovered and found New Netherland, situate in America between New France and Virginia, the sea coasts whereof lie in the Latitude of forty to forty five degrees. [Exclusive right to four voyages, within the next three years granted, as per the provisons in the preceeding extract.]
—*Ibid, p. 10.*

II.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONTEST FOR THE POSSESSION OF THE TERRITORY OF NORTH AMERICA.

(1) *Holland and Sweden and England.*

The South bay and South river, by many called the second great river of New Netherland, is situated in latitude 38 degrees 53 minutes . . . The discovery itself was made at the same time as that of the North river, by the same ship and crew, who entered the South bay before they arrived at the North bay, . . . The Swedish Governor, thinking his opportunity now come, had a fort, called Elsenburch, erected at this place, and took great liberties with everyone, even with the [Dutch] Company's yachts, or such as would go up the South river; . . . What right these people have to do so we know not; . . . The English have also sought at divers times and places to annex this river, being, as they say, the nearest to it; but they have been prevented hitherto in this, by divers protests, and also by their being expelled by force, well knowing that if they but once happen to settle there, the river would be lost, or cause considerable trouble; for they would swarm to it in great numbers. . . . 'Tis to be borne in mind, that if these people come to settle there, they will so rapidly spread themselves over every place, that shortly neither Dutch nor Swedes will have much to say there; . . . —*New York Colonial Documents I, p. 292.*

(2) *Holland and England.*

No profit from New Netherland, if the duties on goods imported remain, 1650:

As New Netherlands with the present duties can not be populated, so this state [Holland] must no more expect those benefits which would in course of time accrue from thence, such as, first; from population, provisions and a continual trade which, if the duties were removed, would amount to six times more than it now is, and also increase from year to year and be of great

consideration reciprocally from their High Mightinesses to everyone else. But on the contrary, this state will inevitably be subject to contempt and derision on the part of the English, (who in the course of time will absorb the country) for suffering so very advantageous a position and so profitable province as New Netherland to slip through its fingers, on account of some particular interests, and for still lacking means, with a knowledge of the superiority of the country, to retain it and render it prosperous --*New York Colonial Document, I, 374.*

Boundary claimed by New Netherland:

Latitude 38 to 41 $\frac{1}{2}$ degrees, which land they have many years since possessed, according to the Description hereunto annexed, before any other nations had come thereabouts, or discovered them; but on the favorable accounts received here from these parts, the English sent some ships and people thither, whom they settled to the Southward of us. That country they named Virginia. In like manner they, also, have planted Colonies to the North of us, which country they called New England, whither they conveyed so many people that they in a short time greatly outnumbered our nation. Becoming presumptuous in consequence, they began to encroach on our limits, and invaded many lands contrary to our formal interdicts and protests, so that on the North this Nation did not hesitate to make themselves masters of the greater part of the Fresh river, notwithstanding we had there erected a trading house and fort called the Hope, which we likewise occupied and garrisoned. Regardless hereof, the English, on their side, have proceeded to extend their Colonies over many of our lands purchased from the Indians, and would have done their best to usurp the largest and finest portion of our territory. Had not the Managers [prevented] *New York Colonial Documents, I, p. 546.*

Surrender of the New Netherlands to the English:

Aug. 31, 1664. Received a letter from the English General in answer to ours, but unsigned.

1st, September English Deputies came with said letter signed, setting forth in substance that his Majesty's right to this place was indisputable, without, however, wanting to enter into any debate thereupon, demanding its surrender, threatening if resisted, and promising to allow each to retain his property, if the place were voluntarily given up.

9th, September. And thereupon, without any other occurrence, was, as above stated, the place of New Amsterdam, in New Netherlands, situate on the Manhatans, surrendered to the English, the garrison retiring with all their arms, flying colors and beating drums; and thereby the English, without any contest or claim being put forth by any person to it, took possession of a fort built and continually garrisoned about 40 years at the expense of the West India Company [of Holland] —*New York Colonial Documents, II, 411, 415.*

(3) *England and France.*

Relation of English and French colonies; Mr. Penn's suggestions in regard to the colonies, 1700:

4. That great caution should be observed to adjust the bounds northward with the French com'rs or the los-e will be great and irreparable. Wee take the South side of the River and Lakes of Canada to be our just and reasonable boundarys, soil and trade with the Indians being much concerned therein.—*New York Colonial Documents, IV. p. 757.*

Colonel Heathcote to Governor Hunter,
July 8, 1715:

. . . As whether it would not be very proper with as little losse of time as may be, for your Excellency to desire a meeting or congresse at some convenient place, of all or as many of the Governours on this Continent as can with conveniency come & attend it; where it may be considered of and resolved what measures to take for extinguishing the fire already begun, and to prevent its increase; for as evry part of North America is struck at, so all our interests

are the same, and what number soever is wounded or hurt, the whole ought to reckon themselves agrieved, and not carelessly suffer the French to angle us away, province by province, till at last all will be gone, and as it is impossible that we and the French can both inhabit this Continent in peace, but that one nation must at last give way to the other, so 'tis very necessary that, without sleeping away our time, all precautions imaginable should be taken to prevent its falling to our lots to remove, and when your Excellency and the rest of the Governours have mett & considered what steps will be most fitting to take, it would then I humbly suppose, be very desirable that some person be sent home to lay their thoughts before His Majesty, and to solicit such assistance as may be thought needful; and as to the present view of things the whole Coast on a breach with France appears to be in danger enough, so could all the governments be brought to reason and to believe themselves as they really are to be but one family, and untill the tryall is over and 'tis known whether North America must be long to the French or to us, that besides the bare subsisting themselves they would devote their persons and estates to end the dispute, by resolutions of this kind they might rest assured of all necessary assistance from His Majesty thoroughly to accomplish the work. But if the old rules are still put in practice, and those who are not immediately concerned will, like sheep, only stand gazing on while the wolff is murdering and distroying other parts of the flock, it will come to every ones time at last — *New York Colonial Documents, Vol. V. pp. 430-31.*

The French nation, having always been desirous to extend their dominions in America have lost no opportunity to encroach upon their neighbors there . . .

However, as the French are convinced, that a Charter without possession can never be allowed by the law of nations to change the property of the soil, they have employed another artifice; and without embarrassing themselves about former discoveries, made by the subjects of other Princes have built small forts at the heads of lakes and rivers, along that vast tract

of land, from the entry of the river St. Lawrence to the embouchure of the Mississippi. . . . On the Mississippi, and the branches of it, there are many great nations, especially to the West, as the Missouris, . . . not less, it is affirmed than 60,000 men; with all whom it is said the French have peace or some alliance . . . In that part of this report, relating to the French settlements, we have taken notice, that nature has furnished the British Colonies with a barrier, which may easily be defended, having cast up a long ridge of mountains between your Majesty's Plantations and the french settlements, extending from South Carolina to New York. . . .

But although these Mountains may serve at present for a very good frontier, we should not propose them for the boundary of your Majesty's Empire in America. On the contrary, it were to be wished, that the British Settlements might be extended beyond them, and some small forts erected on the great Lakes. . . . [1721]—*New York Colonial Documents, Vol V p 619, 622, 624*

The value of Nova Scotia and America. W. Shirley to Duke of Newcastle, Dec. 1745:

; To which I would beg leave to subjoin that it seems to me far from being improbable that the French will attempt the reduction of Nova Scotia early in the Spring. . . . But if they should not attempt Louisbourg they would irresistably break up all the Eastern Settlements of this Province and I doubt not the whole Province of New Hampshire itself, which which would make them masters of all Mast Country and Nava Stores and of a rich Soil for Corn as well as Cattle and this would also enable them to make a deep impression on all the Western frontier of this Province [Mass.,] New York and Connecticut, and, how far they might penetrate is not certain but so far at least as might make it very difficult to dislodge 'em and give such an hold of the Continent as to make 'em think in time of pushing with the assistance of the Indians for the mastery of it, which is richly worth contending for with all their might as it would in their hands lay the

surest foundation for an Universal Monarchy by Sea and Land that ever a people had.

Shirley to Newcastle, Feb. 1746:

But it seems plain upon the whole, that the French are making the Utmost Efforts to retain the Indians of those parts in their interest, and gaining over the Inhabitants of Nova Scotia, so that the Taking of Speedy measures for Securing these last and gaining over the former which will depend upon that as the preservation of Nova Scotia does upon both, is a matter of the Highest Consequence.

Shirley to Newcastle, May, 1746.

. . . it [gaining Accadie, holding Newfoundland and the Cod-fisheries] would furnish his Majesty with as good a Nursery of Seamen for the Royal Navy . . .

. . . that the holding of Annapolis Royal in particular will be establishing to his Majesty the Mastery of the Northern Part of this Continent against the French. Secure to him inexhaustible Nurseries of Masts, Yards, Bowsprits and other Stores for his Navy and Timbers for Ship building within his Northern Colonies independent of any foreign State to be purchased with British Manufacturers and transported in British Vessels that the Inhabitants of the Northern Colonies would in time make such an Addition of Subjects to the Crown of Great Britain as would make their number Superior to that of any Princes upon the Continent of Europe.

Shirley to Newcastle, June 1746:

And I would particularly submit to your Grace's Consideration, whether in case of any Disappointment in the present Attempt for the reduction of Canada, the immediate removal of some at least of the French Inhabitants of Nova Scotia, and securing the province in the best manner would not be . . . advisable and even necessary.

Shirley to Mascarene, Sept. 1746.

Having been inform'd that the french Inhabitants of Nova Scotia entertain some Jealousey of a Design in the English Government to remove them with their

Families from their Settlements, and transport them to France or elsewhere, I desire . . . that you would be pleased to signify to 'em that it is probable if his Majesty had declared such an Intention I might have heard the same, but that I am persuaded there is no just Ground for this Jealousy; . . .

Shirley to Newcastle, Nov. 1746.

. . . Governor Knowles . . . informs me that it will be necessary to drive *all the French* . . . out of Accadie (Nova Scotia) in the spring, . . . As the Sentiments, which I have taken the Liberty to offer . . . happen to be something different from Mr Knowles's, I think it may not only be proper, but my Duty to mention the Reasons of my preferring the scheme for attempting to make the present french Inhabitants good Subjects to his Majesty, and keeping 'em in the Country, to driving 'em off . . .

Shirley to Newcastle, Febr. 1747.

. . . And if your Grace would allow me the Freedom to offer my Sentiments concerning what appears to me to be farther necessary for putting this Important Province of Nova Scotia (I think I may justly call it the most important to the Crown of any upon this Continent) in Security, . . . —*Parkman*
—*A Half-Century of Conflict, Vol II Appendix,*
pp 324, 326, 329, 331

French opinions of the value and extent of their possessions. M. de la Galissonniere, December, 1750.

. . . We shall not speak of the naval expedition the enemy [England] might be able to make for the conquest of Canada. . .

But should they continue to increase the strength of their Colonies, and should the French Colonies not advance in the same proportion, 'tis not to be doubted but the former will soon be in a condition to lay Canada waste nearly to Montreal, and even to pilage the latter place which would render the French as despicable in that country as they are now respected there, and terminate shortly in their entire ruin. [Then

names various fortifications to be constructed, as Quebec, Montreal, Ft. Frontenac &c to prevent this.] . . .

What has been observed already in the course of this Memoir, when treating of the utility of Canada in regard to the preservation of Mexico, shows the absolute necessity of the free and certain communication from Canada to the Mississippi. This chain, once broken, would leave an opening of which the English would doubtless take advantage to get nearer the silver mines . . . That of the River Oyo [Ohio], otherwise called the Beautiful river, is the most interesting in this relation. . . Neither have the English any ports there, nor did they come to that quarter to trade . . . until the last war, . . .

They have been summoned since the peace, to return, and if they do not do so, there is no doubt but the Governor of Canada will constrain them thereto by force, . . .

They would [if they remained] possess more facilities to interrupt the communication between Canada and Louisiana, for the Beautiful river affords almost the only route for the conveyance from Canada to the River Mississ.pp., of detachments capable of securing that still feeble Colony. . . If the English ever become strong enough in America to dare to attempt the conquest of Mexico, it will be by this Beautiful river, . . .

By it alone will they be able to attack, with any considerable force, and any hope of success, the Illinois posts and all those which will be established along the River St. Louis, otherwise, Mississippi. . . [Then establish posts on the Ohio]—*New York Colonial Documents X, pp. 227, 230.*

By Lonqueuil, 1752:

In fine, experience teaches us too well, that the English look with concupiscence both on the lands of the Beautiful river, and generally on all that vast country. . . . No remedy for our evils would have been more effectual than to drive the English from our lands. . . . —*New York Colonial Documents X, p. 251.*

Limits of English and French possessions,
by Montcalm, 1758:

Lake Ontario, Lake Erie to France; the English cannot erect forts on these lakes, nor on any rivers emptying into them. The height of land, the natural boundary between France and England as far as the Ohio; thereby the Apalachies become the boundary for England; the Ohio to belong to France. . . . *New York Colonial Documents, X, 691*

Canada to be lost if the war continues, by Doreil, 1758.

. . . War continuing, Canada would always finish by being taken sooner or later. We know, beyond a doubt that the Court of England, impelled by the frenzy of the nation, is resolved to invade it, at whatever cost. . . . 'Tis, therefore, absolutely necessary, . . . to think only of making peace, without being very particular about the boundaries. . . . —*New York Colonial Documents, X 820.*

Articles of capitulation for the surrender of
Canada:

. . . between their Excellencies General Amherst, . . . and the Marquis de Vaudreuil . . . Governor and Lieutenant-General for the King in Canada.

Art. 1. The whole garrison of Montreal must lay down their arms, and shall not serve during the present war. Immediately after signing the present capitulation, the King's troops shall take possession of the gates, and shall post the guards necessary to preserve good order in the town.

Art. 13. If before, or after, the embarkation of the Marquis de Vaudreuil, news of peace should arrive, and that by treaty, Canada should remain to his most Christian Majesty, the Marquis de Vaudreuil shall return to Quebec or Montreal, everything shall return to its former state under the dominions of his most Christian Majesty, and the present capitulation shall become null and of no effect.

Art. 27. The free exercise of the Catholic, Apostolic

and Roman religion shall subsist entire, in such manner that all the states and the people of the towns and countries, places and distant posts, shall continue to assemble in the churches, and to frequent the sacraments as heretofore, without being molested in any manner, directly or indirectly- . . .

Art 30 If by the treaty of peace, Canada should remain in the power of his Britannic Majesty his most Christian Majesty shall continue to name the Bishop of the colony who shall be of the Roman commission, and under whose authority the people shall execute the Roman Religion.

Art. 46 The inhabitants and merchants shall enjoy all the privileges of trade, under the same favors and conditions granted to the subjects of his Britannic Majesty, as well in the Upper countries as in the interior.

Art. 47. The Negroes . . . of both sexes shall remain in their quality of slaves in the possession of the French and Canadians to whom they belong. . .

. [Signed Sept 8, 1760.]—*New York Colonial Documents, X. p. 1107-30.*

The Boundaries of Canada. Canada not to be surrendered to England. By M. Dumas.

Commerce has changed the face of Europe, it is now evident that in the long run the more commercial nation will become the more powerful We can no longer dispense with America without falling from our state of splendor. On the restitution of Canada depends the fate of the rest of our Colonies. These principles, clearer than the day, once admitted, that restitution [of Canada to France] ought to form the basis and foundation of the Treaty of Peace . . .

I limit their [the ambassadors'] labors, respecting Canada to four general objects:—

1st. The entire property of both shores of River and Gulf of St. Lawrence.

2nd. The property of the lakes and rivers which form the natural communications between Canada and Louisiana; they consist of Lake Ontario, Lake Erie and the Ohio.

3rd. That neither of the two Nations can form any establishments on the rivers watering the possessions of the other. . . .

I have said, and repeat it, Louisiana cannot exist for us without Canada [Indicates certain boundaries, then says if these cannot be obtained] . . . 'tis more advantageous for France to promptly cede these two Colonies to the English. . . .

The second object of the labor of our plenipotentiaries relative to Canada, regards the communication of that Colony with Louisiana . . . Now that communication can occur only by the Ohio; . . .

To make the Ohio the boundary for the respective Colonies, is to surrender it entirely to the English. In fact, already the English population is advancing towards that river, it has only one step to take to clear the Apalachies, and that step would be taken the day after the signing of the treaty. The left bank of the Ohio would be under English cultivation in less than four years, whilst our population would not reach that point in the space of a century. Who does not see in that explanation the approaching and inevitable fall of Louisiana?

The entire possession of the Ohio cannot then be too much insisted on, the Apalachies constituting the limits:

. . . .
I am fully convinced and every man of sense . . . will agree with me that all the resources of the state will never preserve Canada if the English once settle at the heads of the rivers . . . (1762)—*New York Colonial Documents, Vol. X, pp. 1134-7*

Conquests of the English. King's Speech to Parliament, Nov. 25, 1762:

. . . ; Martimeo and other islands in the West Indies, have been conquered; the Havannah, a place of the utmost importance to Spain is in my possession; . . . Preliminary articles [of peace] have been signed by my minister, with those of France and Spain, which I will order in due time to be laid before you. The conditions of these are such, that there is not only an immense territory added to the Empire of Great

Britain but a solid foundation laid for the increase of trade and commerce; . . . *The Annual Register* 1762, p. 180.

Address of House of Lords to the King on receiving from him the Preliminary Articles of Peace Dec. 9, 1762:

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the lords spiritual and temporal in parliament assembled, beg leave to return your majesty our sincerest acknowledgements, for the important communication which your Majesty has been graciously pleased to make us, of the preliminary articles of peace, concluded the third day of last month at Fontainebleau, with the crowns of France and Spain, and to express, in the most dutiful manner to your Majesty, the satisfaction we have received, at the foundation laid by these articles for a treaty of peace, which will greatly redound to your Majesty's honour, and the real benefit of your kingdoms, . . .

The House of Commons said:

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain in parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our most humble and hearty thanks for your most gracious condescension in ordering to be laid before us the preliminary articles of peace concluded between your majesty on the one part and their most Christian and Catholic Majesties on the other; . . . and, altho^t to make peace and war be your Majesty's just and undoubted prerogative yet knowing how agreeable it must be to your loyal mind to be informed of the grateful sense your people entertain of the justice and wisdom of your measures, and of your unwearied attention to our welfare, your faithful commons are impatient to express their approbation of the advantageous terms upon which your Majesty hath concluded preliminary articles of peace, and to lay before your majesty the

heartly applause of a faithful, affectionate people — *The Annual Register*, 1762, pp 231-32.

Treaty of Peace, 1763, between England, France and Spain:

In the name of the most Holy and Undivided Trinity, Father Son and Holy Ghost So be it

Be it known to all those to whom it shall, or may, in any manner, belong It has pleased the Most High to diffuse the spirit of union and concord among the princes, whose divisions had spread troubles in the four parts of the world and to inspire them with the inclination to cause the comforts of peace to succeed to the misfortunes of a long and a bloody war which having arisen between England and France, during the reign of the most serene and potent prince, George the Second, by the grace of God, king of Great Britain, of glorious memory, continued under the reign of the most serene and potent prince, George the Third, his successor, and, in its progress, communicated itself to Spain and Portugal consequently the most serene and potent prince, George the Third, by the grace of God, king of Great Britain, France and Ireland, duke of Brunswick and Lunenbourg, arch-treasurer and elector of the Holy Roman Empire the most serene and most potent prince, Lewis the Fifteenth by the grace of God most Christian king and the most serene and potent prince, Charles the Third, by the grace of God, king of Spain and of the Indies after having laid the foundation of peace in the preliminaries, signed at Fontainebleau the 3d of November last, . . . determined to complete without delay, this great and important work.

ART. IV His most Christian majesty renounces all pretensions which he has heretofore formed, or might form, to Nova Scotia or Acadia, in all its parts, and guarantees the whole of it, and with all its dependencies, to the king of Great Britain; moreover his most Christian majesty cedes and guarantees to his said Britannic majesty, in full right, Canada with all its dependencies, as well as the island of Cape Breton, and all the other islands and coasts, in the Gulf and river of St. Lawrence, and, in general, everything that de-

pende on the said countries, lands, islands and coasts, with the sovereignty, property and possession, and all rights acquired by treaty and otherwise, which the most Christian king and the crown of France, have had, till now, over the said countries, islands, lands, places, coasts and their inhabitants, so that the most Christian king cedes and makes over the whole to the said king and to the crown of Great Britain, and that in the most ample manner and form, without restriction and without any liberty to depart from the said cession and guarantee, under any pretense, or to disturb Great Britain in the possessions above mentioned. . . .

ART. VII. In order to re-establish peace on solid and durable foundations, and to remove forever all subjects of dispute with regard to the limits of the British and French territories on the continent of America, that for the future, the confines between the dominions of his Britannic majesty, in that part of the world, shall be fixed irrevocably by a line drawn along the middle of the river Mississippi, from its source to the river Iberville, and from thence, by a line drawn along the middle of this river, and the lake Maurepas and Pontchartrain, to the sea; . . .

ART. XIX. The king of Great Britain shall restore to Spain all the territory which he has conquered in the island of Cuba, with the fortress of the Havanna, . . .

ART. XX. In consequence of the restitution stipulated in the preceding article, his catholic majesty cedes and guarantees, in full right, to his Britannic majesty, Florida with fort St. Augustin and the bay of Pensacola, as well as all that Spain possesses on the continent of North America, to the east or to the southeast of the river Mississippi, and, in general everything that depends on the said countries and lands with the sovereignty, property, possession, and all rights, acquired by treaties or otherwise, which the catholic king and the crown of Spain, have had till now, over the said countries, lands, places, and other inhabitants: so that the Catholic king cedes and makes over the whole to the said king, and to the crown of Great Britain, and that in the most ample manner and form. . . .—

Annual Register, pp 233, 240.

QUESTIONS.

1. What was the basis of the claim of Spain to parts of North America? 2. What sea did Columbus mean by Indian sea? 3. What sea was it in reality? 4. State the basis of the claim of France? 5. What regions did France explore? 6. Who made voyages for the English? 7. What regions did they claim? 8. Give the basis of the Dutch claims. 9. Did any of these claims overlap? 10. Draw maps to show the territorial claims of the various claimants. 1584, 1614, 1664.

1. What claimant gave up its claims first? 2. How did the Dutch regard the English as colonizers? 3. Were the Dutch skillful in managing their possessions? 4. What error did they make? 5. What present rivers were then known as Fresh North South? 6. When did Holland yield New Netherlands? 7. What was the Manhattan?

1. What boundaries did Penn suggest between English and French possessions? 2. How early was it felt that one or the other nation must yield its claims? 3. Why did Col. Heathcote believe the colonies should unite? 4. How were the French gaining territory? 5. Were the Indians generally with the French or English? 6. What boundaries proposed? 7. What the value of Nova Scotia to the English? 8. What the object of removing the inhabitants of Acadie? 9. What did the French call the Ohio river? 10. What value did they place on its possession? 11. What boundaries did the French wish to establish in America? 12. Give terms of surrender of Canada, 1760 also of final treaty of 1763. 13. What peculiar tone do you notice in the language of the addresses of the Lords and Commons to the King? 14. What territory did England gain in 1763? 15. Make a map to show possessions in 1764. 16. Write a history of the subject—"European Possessions in America, 1492-1765."

FIRST NATIONAL BOUNDARIES

First territorial boundaries defined in treaty of peace, 1783. Area, 827,844 square miles. Southern boundary left in dispute with Spain, settled by treaty, 1796. Northeastern boundary left in doubt. Many discussions and later treaties. Received practical settlement, 1842. Northwestern boundary vague; settled to Rocky mountains, 1818.

CHAPTER II

FIRST NATIONAL BOUNDARIES

IN the previous number we traced the gradual development of the English power on this continent. The Swedes, the Dutch, and the French lost possessions which were from time to time secured by the English. At the close of the period all North America, except the Island of New Orleans, was in the possession of the English. This number brings before us the formation of a new nation. In a general way the negotiations in regard to boundaries are outlined, and some of the many arguments concerning boundaries are presented. From these extracts something may be learned about the suspicions entertained by some of the American statesmen of the plans and purposes of Spanish, French, and English diplomats. Finally the boundaries as agreed upon are given. The danger that the United States might be strangled in their infancy by being confined to the coast district comes before us in various ways. However at the close we find that the boundaries secured were satisfactory to the newly forming American people.

The following extracts, indicate the feelings and state of mind of George III, in 1781-1782:

(June 18, 1781) It is difficult to express which appears more strongly, the manly fortitude of the great majority

last night in rejecting the hackneyed question of a Committee for considering the American war, or the impudence of the minority in again bringing it forward; for whoever the most ardently wishes for peace must feel that every repetition of this question in Parliament only makes the rebels and the Bourbon family more desirous of continuing the war, from the hopes of tiring out this country. We have it not at this hour in our power to make peace; it is by steadiness and exertions that we are to get into a situation to effect it: and with the assistance of Divine Providence I am confident we shall soon find our enemies forced to look for that blessing. Among our many misfortunes, I feel one satisfaction that we have but one line to follow; therefore, at least, diffidence and perplexity cannot attend us; and we have the greatest objects to make us zealous in our pursuit, for we are contending for our whole consequence, whether we are to rank among the great powers of Europe, or be reduced to one of the least considerable. He that is not stimulated by this consideration does not deserve to be a member of this community

(Dec. 15, 1781) The account of the very great majority on the first motion on the Army Estimates last night gives me much pleasure and shews the country gentlemen begin to see that, though internal continental operations in North America are not advisable, the prosecution of the war can alone preserve us from a most ignominious peace, which, when once concluded, would certainly occasion much greater internal uneasiness than any difficulties at present to be contended with

(March 17, 1782). I am sorry to find by Ld. North's note that the majority this morning did not exceed nine; looks as if the House of Commons is going lengths that could not have been expected. I am resolved not to throw myself into the hands of the Opposition at all events, and shall certainly, if things go as they seem to lead, know what my conscience as well as honour dictates as the only way left for me. . . .

(March 19 1782) . . . At last the fatal day has come which the misfortunes of the times and the sudden change of sentiments of the House of Commons

have drove me to changing the Ministry, and a more general removal of other persons than I believe ever was known before. I have to the last fought for individuals, but the number I have saved, except my Bedchamber, is incredibly few. You would hardly believe that even the Duke of Montagu was strongly run^d at, but I declared that I would sooner let confusion follow than part with the governor of my sons and so unexceptionable a man; at last I have succeeded so that he and Ld. Ashburnham remain. The effusion of my sorrows has made me say more than I had intended, but I ever did and ever shall look upon you as a friend, as well as a faithful servant . . . —*From the Correspondence of King George III, Cited in Hart, American History Told by Contemporaries II, 618-19*

Livingston, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, under the Articles of Confederation, sent instructions to Franklin, at Paris, and the following arguments in regard to the boundaries we should claim in making peace with Great Britain; Jan. 7, 1782:—

The first point of discussion will be the limits of the United States. The instructions given to Mr Adams on the ——— day of ——— last explain the wishes of Congress on that subject, nor can they admit of many doubts, except so far as they relate to our southern extent, the boundary between us and Canada being very well ascertained by grants, charters, proclamations and other acts of government, and more particularly by the settlements of people who are engaged in the same cause with us, and who have the same rights with the rest of the subjects of the United States.

• Our western and northwestern extent will probably be contested with some warmth, and the reasoning on that subject be deduced from general principles and from proclamations and treaties with the Indians.

The subject is undoubtedly intricate and delicate, yet upon candid investigation I believe it will appear that our extension to the Mississippi is founded in justice and that our claims are at least such as the events of the war give us the right to insist upon Your situa

tion furnishing you amply with the various documents on which Great Britain founded her claim to all the country east of the Mississippi previous to the treaty of Paris, I will not trouble you with references to them, which would at any rate be imperfect, from the want which prevails here of books and papers. Taking it for granted that the King of Great Britain was entitled to that extent of country (which he at least cannot contravene), it only remains to examine how far he considers it as within the limits of some or other of the United States, because he can no more pretend to abridge those limits than claim by any other right of which the United States are in possession.

Strong evidence in our favor is also found in the map made by the king's geographer, in which Virginia and the Carolinas are laid down as extending to the Mississippi, shortly after the last war. Arguments may be drawn against us from the Quebec bill, but as this is one of the laws that occasioned the war, to build anything upon it would be to urge one wrong in support of another. But this matter may perhaps be seen in a different light, and our pretensions placed upon a more extensive basis, by recurring to general principles and asking whence Great Britain derived her right to the waste lands in America.

Evidently from the allegiance which a subject is supposed to carry with him wherever he goes, even though he dislikes his constitution and seeks one that pleases him better. Upon this false principle the oppressed subjects of Great Britain, seeking freedom in the wilds of America, were supposed to extend to it the sovereignty of the kingdom they had left. The rights of the king of Great Britain, then, to America were incident to his right of sovereignty over those of his subjects that settled America and explored the lands he claims. For the idea of right derived from mere discovery, and the vain ceremony of taking possession without planting and continuing that possession is now fully exploded. If, then, we admit what is necessary to our independence, that the right of sovereignty over the people of America is forfeited, it must follow that all rights founded on that sovereignty are forfeited with it, and that upon our setting up a new sovereign

in America, the rights which the first claimed as such devolve upon the second. Upon this principle Great Britain is left without a foot of land in America beyond the limits of those governments which acknowledge her jurisdiction.

It is vain to say that the King of Great Britain holds these back lands by a cession from other powers, since those cessions were grounded upon a prior claim derived through the people of America, and only served to confirm the right which they gave the King of Great Britain while he was their sovereign, and which he loses with his sovereignty over them. This mode of reasoning is warranted by the practice Great Britain uniformly held of treating with the Indian nations through their American governors, who have frequently executed with them the most solemn acts, and sometimes extended the King's protection to the nations who occupy the waste lands which are the subject of our present claim. The expense of retaining these in friendship almost always devolved upon the respective states, who, till lately, particularly in New York, voted the sums necessary to support smiths among them and to procure the presents which were annually made them. From hence, then, it follows that if the King of Great Britain has any right over the back lands in America it must be as king of the people of America; ceasing to be king of those people, his right also ceases. If he has no right over the back lands but merely as protector of the savage nations that inhabit them, that connexion and duty also devolve upon us, since they evidently claimed that protection from him as king of the colonies, and through the governors of those colonies, and not as sovereign of a country three thousand miles from them. This country having chosen a new sovereign, they may rightfully claim its protection.

There is some reason to believe that Great Britain considered their rights in many instances as extending no further than their rights of pre-emption and protection, as may be inferred from passages in the negotiations for peace with France in 1761, referred to in the margin. This suggests a new idea, which, however, I am not warranted by any act of Congress in

mentioning; and therefore you will only consider it as the sentiment of an individual. If the mediators should not incline to admit our claim, but determine on restricting our limits, either by the extent of our grants, the course of the mountains, the sources of the rivers, or any other of these arbitrary rules that must be sought for when solid principles are relinquished, perhaps it would not be difficult to bring them to agree that the country beyond those limits belongs to the nations which inhabit it; that it should enjoy its independence under the guarantee of France, Spain, Great Britain, and America, and be open to the trade of those whose lands border upon them.

This, though restrictive of our rights, would free us from the well grounded apprehensions that the vicinity of Great Britain and the command of the savages would give us. They already possess Canada and Nova Scotia; should that immense territory, which lies upon the rear of the States from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the Gulf of Mexico, be acknowledged to be vested in Great Britain, it will render our situation truly hazardous. The lands, as you know, are infinitely better than those on the coast; they have an open communication with the sea by the rivers St. Lawrence and the Mississippi, and with each other by those extensive inland seas with which America abounds. They will be settled with the utmost rapidity from Europe, but more particularly from these States. Attachment to the government, freedom from taxes, a prospect of bettering their fortunes, and the fertility of the soil will invite numbers to leave us. This coöperating with the leaven of dissatisfaction, which will continue to work for many years, may produce the most dangerous effects, especially upon the southern States, which will, from the nature of their soil and husbandry, be thinly settled for many years, while the lands which lie near them, beyond the mountains, will soon be filled with a hardy race of people inimical to them, who to their own strength will be enabled to join that of the savages subject to their command.

If it is an object with the maritime powers to lessen the powers, and thereby diminish the dangerous do-

minion that Great Britain has in some manner usurped over the ocean. they must prevent her possessing herself of the country in question, since, besides the whole fur and peltry trade that she will thereby engross, the demands of this great country will give a new spring to her manufactures, which, though the Floridas should be ceded to Spain, will find their way into it by the river St. Lawrence and through the numerous lakes and rivers which communicate with it. Add to this that settlements are already formed beyond the Appalachian mountains by people who acknowledge the United States, which not only give force to our claims, but render a relinquishment of their interest highly impolitic and unjust. These and a variety of other reasons, which will suggest themselves to you and the gentlemen joined in the commission with you, will doubtless be urged in such terms as to convince the court of France that our mutual interests conspire to keep Great Britain from any territory on this continent beyond the bounds of Canada. Should the Floridas be ceded to Spain, she will certainly unite with you on this point as the security of that cession will depend upon its success. . . . —*Sparks' Diplomatic Correspondence, II, 194; also Diplomatic Correspondence of the American Revolution, V, 88-90.*

R. R. Livingstone to the Governors of the States, Feb. 18, 1782:

. . . Another resolution relates to your boundaries, and is designed as our means of ascertaining the territorial rights of the United States collectively, which can only be accurately known by each State's exhibiting its claims and the evidence on which they found them. Your excellency will therefore be pleased to direct authentic copies from your records of all grants, charters, maps, treaties with the natives, and other evidences, to be transmitted to this office as soon as you can conveniently collect them. I could wish that the copies might be proved by having the great seal of your State annexed . . . —*Diplomatic Correspondence of the American Revolution, V, 180.*

Feeling in regard to the plans and action of Spain in 1782. R. R. Livingston to Jay.

Though the delays you have met with afford room to suspect that Spain wishes to defer a particular treaty with us till a general peace, yet I see so many political reasons against such a measure, that I can hardly presume they will adopt it . . .

Will it consist with the dignity of his Catholic majesty to ask, for the short space in which he has been engaged in the war, not only Gibraltar, but the two Floridas, the Mississippi, the exclusion of Great Britain from the trade to the Bay of Honduras . . . Will she (Spain) expose herself to the imputation of despoiling an ally (for such we are in fact, though we want the name), at the instant that she is obtaining the greatest advantage from the distress which that ally has, at least in part, contributed to bring upon her enemy? And this, too, without the least necessity, when she may, by accepting and purchasing our title, appear to have contended for the rights of the United States. . . . —*Diplomatic Correspondence*. V, 334.

A resolution passed by Congress, May 31, 1782. Evidently there was something in the wind. What was it?

Resolved, That the Secretary for Foreign Affairs acquaint the minister plenipotentiary of France, that the signal proofs of inviolable constancy to his engagements, given by his most Christian majesty in the answer to the attempts of the British courts to seduce him into a separate peace, has been received by Congress with the sentiments with which it ought naturally to inspire faithful and affectionate allies, and entirely corresponds with the expectations which the magnanimity and good faith of his past conduct established. That Congress embrace with particular satisfaction this occasion of renewing to his most Christian majesty the assurances which they have so often and so sincerely repeated, of a reciprocal and equal resolution to adhere in every event to the principles of the alliance, and to hearken to no propositions of peace which are

not perfectly conformable thereto. . . . *Diplomatic Correspondence V*, 464-65.

The following "notes for conversation" with Mr. Oswald, taken from Franklin's Journal of April 18, 1782, shows what territory he wished the United States to secure at peace.

To make a peace durable, what may give occasion for future war should, if practicable, be removed.

The territory of the United States and that of Canada, by long extended frontiers, touch each other. .

. Britain possesses Canada. Her chief advantage from that possession consists in the trade for peltry. Her expenses in governing and defending that settlement must be considerable. It might be humiliating to her to give it up on the demand of America. Perhaps America will not demand it; some of her political rulers may consider the fear of such a neighbor as the means of keeping the thirteen states more united among themselves, and more attentive to military discipline. But on the mind of the people in general, would it not have an excellent effect if Britain should voluntarily offer to give up this province; though on these conditions that she shall, in all times coming, have and enjoy the right of free trade thither, unincumbered with any duties whatsoever; that so much of the vacant lands there shall be sold as will raise a sum sufficient to pay for the houses burnt by the British troops and their Indians; and also to indemnify the royalists for the confiscation of their estates? . . . Cited in *Diplomatic Correspondence of the American Revolution V*, 541.

Should the American commissioners treat with England without the consent of her allies? Franklin's Journal, June 5, 1782.

Mr. Grenville then discoursed of our resolution not to treat without our allies. This, says he, can only properly relate to France, with whom you have a treaty of alliance, but you have none with Spain, you have none with Holland. If Spain and Holland, and even if France should insist upon unreasonable terms of ad-

vantage to themselves, after you have obtained all you want, and are satisfied, can it be right that America should be dragged on in a war for their interest only? He stated this matter in various lights, and pressed it earnestly. I resolved from various reasons to evade the discussion, therefore answered, that the intended treaty not being yet begun, it appeared unnecessary to enter into considerations of that kind— . . . —Cited in *Diplomatic Correspondence V*, 567.

Powers of Richard Oswald, given by King George III, July 25, 1782:

. . . And it is our royal will and pleasure, and we hereby authorize, empower and require you, the said Richard Oswald, to treat, consult, and conclude, with any commissioner or commissioners, named or to be named by the said colonies or plantations, and any body or bodies, corporate or politic, assembly or assemblies, or descriptions of men, or person or persons, whatsoever, a peace or truce with the said colonies or plantations, or any of them, or any part or parts thereof; any law, act, or acts of Parliament, matter or thing, to the contrary notwithstanding —*Ibid*, 613-14.

Debate in Congress, August 8, 1782, concerning the instructions to be given to our peace commissioners:

Mr Lee differs in opinion with the gentleman from North Carolina. It is not sufficient that the independence of these States is secured. But he doubts whether even that is secured by the instructions. He is afraid of the accompaniment; that we shall be so circumscribed in our boundaries that our independence will be a nugatory independence. France in making a treaty will be governed by her own interest and from her long and close connection with Spain, and prefer it to ours. Is it wise, is it proper, to give a nation the absolute disposal of our affairs that is under the influence of two interests which she is bound to consult in preference to that of these States? This unlimited con-

fidence will render us despicable in the eyes of France and make her less attentive to our rights. We have been informed by a minister of France that Spain has large claims on the lands beyond the mountains. Her conduct shows that she means to support her claim to that country. She wishes to confine us to the lands lying below the heads of waters falling into the Atlantic. We are told that she thinks she has a right to possess herself of all to the westward. And shall we submit to France, her old friend and ally, whether her claims shall be confirmed and we be excluded from the possession of that country? . . .

Mr. Rutledge said it was true France was bound to maintain the independence of the States, but he wanted to know what were the States. He did not enter into the war for himself or for those inhabiting the lands of the waters falling into the Atlantic, but for posterity, for those who would hereafter inhabit the country beyond the mountains to the extent formerly claimed by the crown of Great Britain as belonging to these thirteen States. He would continue the war forever rather than be circumscribed in narrower bounds. He should therefore be against postponing. . . .

Mr. Witherspoon seemed to admit that the minister had desired the committee to fix their boundaries; that it could not be done so as to make it an ultimatum to the satisfaction of all the States. He observed that the happiness of the people on this side of the Alleghany Mountains was a sufficient object to induce them to enter into the war; that some of the States had their boundaries fixed and determined; that the State he had the honor to represent was one of them; that it had not entered into the war nor would it, he believed, be willing to continue it for the sake of boundless claims of wild, uncultivated country, more especially as it was a matter of dispute and will undoubtedly occasion much contention among the States to whom that country if ceded will of right belong. that what related to a treaty of commerce will come within the objects of the present motion; he is therefore against postponing it. . . . —Cited in *Diplomatic Correspondence*, etc., V, 646, 649, 650, extracted from the papers of Charles Thomson, Secretary of the Continental Congress,

Proposed boundary line, Oct. 8, 1782:

The said states are bounded north by a line drawn from the north-west angle of Nova Scotia, along the highlands which divide those rivers which empty themselves into the river St. Lawrence, from those which fall into the Atlantic Ocean, to the northernmost head of Connecticut River; thence down along the middle of that river to the 45th degree of north latitude, and thence due west in the latitude 45 degrees north from the equator, to the northwesternmost side of the river St. Lawrence or Cadaraqui; thence straight to the south end of the Lake Nipissing, and thence straight to the source of the river Mississippi, west by a line to be drawn along the middle of the river Mississippi; from its source to where the said line shall intersect the 31st degree of north latitude; south by a line to be drawn due east from the termination of the line last mentioned, in the latitude of 31 degrees north of the equator, to the middle of the river Apalachicola or Catahouchi; thence straight to the head of St. Mary's River; thence down along the middle of St. Mary's River to the Atlantic Ocean, and east by a line to be drawn along the middle of St. John's River from its source to its mouth in the bay of Fundy; comprehending islands within twenty leagues of any part of the shores of the United States, and lying between lines to be drawn due east from the points where the aforesaid boundaries between Nova Scotia on the one part and East Florida on the other shall respectively touch the Bay of Fundy and the Atlantic Ocean. . . . —*Diplomatic Correspondence*, V, 806.

Extracts from the Conferences of M. de Rayneval (French Minister) with Lord Shelburne, Oct. 1782, concerning boundaries. Rayneval is speaking: —

. . . As for the extent of the boundaries, I supposed that the Americans would take it according to their maps, that is to say, that they would wish to go from the ocean to the South Sea. Lord Shelburne treated the maps as nonsense, and the discussion did no

further because I wanted neither to sustain or dispute his position. I only said that the English ministry would find in the negotiations of 1754, relating to Ohio, the boundaries that England, then sovereign of the 13 United States, thought fit to assign them.

. . . —*Diplomatic Correspondence, etc.*, V, 822.

John Adams' account of the negotiations between the American and the English commissioners concerning peace, Oct. 31, 1782:

. . . I waited forthwith on Mr. Jay, and from him learned the state of the conferences. It is not possible at present to enter into details. All I can say is in general, that I had the utmost satisfaction in finding that he had been all along acting here in the same principles upon which I had ventured to act in Holland, and that we were perfectly agreed in our sentiments and systems. I cannot express it better than in his own words: "to be honest and grateful to our allies, but to think for ourselves." I find a construction put upon one article of our instructions by some persons which, I confess, I never put upon it myself. It is represented by some as subjecting us to the French ministry, as taking away from us all right of judging for ourselves, and obliging us to agree to whatever the French ministers should advise us to, and to do nothing without their consent. I never supposed this to be the intention of Congress; if I had, I never would have accepted the commission, and if I now thought it their intention I could not continue in it. I can not think it possible to be the design of Congress: if it is I hereby resign my place in the commission and request that another person may be immediately appointed in my stead. . . .

. . . I arrived in a lucky moment for the boundary of the Massachusetts, because I brought with me all the essential documents relative to that object, which are this day to be laid before my colleagues in conference at my house, and afterwards before Mr. Oswald. o

It is now apparent, at least to Mr. Jay and myself, that in order to obtain the western lands, the naviga-

tion of the Mississippi, and the fisheries, or any of them, we must act with firmness and independence; as well as prudence and delicacy. With these there is little doubt we may obtain them all. . . . —*Diplomatic Correspondence*, V, 839.

Extract from Adams' Journal, Nov. 5, 1782.

. . . Mr. Jay likes Frenchmen as little as Mr. Lee and Mr. Izard did. He says they are not a moral people. They know not what it is. He don't like any Frenchman. The Marquis de La Fayette is clever, but he is a Frenchman. Our allies don't play fair he told me. They were endeavoring to deprive us of the fishery, the western lands, and the navigation of the Mississippi. They would even bargain with the English to deprive us of them. They want to play the western lands, the Mississippi, and the whole Gulf of Mexico into the hands of Spain. c

Oswald talks of Pulteney and a plot to divide America between France and England. France to have New England. They tell a story about Vergennes and his agreeing that the English might propose such a division, but reserving a right to deny it all. These whispers ought not to be credited by us. . . . *Ib.* V, 849.

Extract from a letter of J. Adams to R. R. Livingstone, Nov. 8, 1782.

. . . If we conduct ourselves with caution, prudence, moderation and firmness we shall succeed in every great point; but if Congress or their ministers abroad suffer themselves to be intimidated by threats, slanders or insinuations, we shall be duped out of the fishery, the Mississippi, and much of the western lands, compensation to the Tories, and Penobscot, at least, if not Kennebec as our eastern boundary. This is my solemn opinion, and I will never be answerable to my country, posterity, or my own mind for the consequences that might happen from concealing it.

It is for the determinate purpose of carrying these points that one man, who is submission itself, is puffed up to the very top of Jacob's ladder in the clouds and

every other man depressed to the bottom of it in the dust. This is my opinion; let me be punished for it, for assuredly I am guilty.--*Ib.* V, 866.

Letter of J. Jay to Livingston, Nov. 17, 1782. In this letter Jay outlines his suspicions in regard to the policy of France, and D' Aranda, the Spanish minister at the French court:

Hence it happened that I did not meet Count D' Aranda on business till a month afterwards, when, agreeably to a previous appointment, I waited upon him.

He began the conference by various remarks on the general principles on which contracting nations should form treaties, on the magnanimity of his sovereign, and on his own disposition to disregard trifling considerations in great matters. Then opening Mitchell's large map of North America, he asked me what were our boundaries. I told him that the boundary between us and the Spanish dominions was a line drawn from the head of Mississippi down the middle thereof to the thirty-first degree of North latitude, and from thence by the line between Florida and Georgia.

He entered into a long discussion of our right to such an extent and insisted principally on two objections to it: 1st. That the western country had never belonged to or been claimed as belonging to the ancient colonies. That previous to the last war, it had belonged to France, and after its cession to Britain remained a distinct part of her dominions, until by the conquest of West Florida and certain posts on the Mississippi and Illinois, it became vested in Spain. 2dly. That supposing the Spanish right of conquest did not extend over *all* that country, still that it was possessed by free and independent nations of Indians, whose lands we could not with any propriety consider as belonging to us. He therefore proposed to run a longitudinal line on the east side of the river for our western boundary; and said that he did not mean to dispute about a few acres or miles, but wished to run it in a manner that would be convenient to us, for,

though he could never admit the extent we claimed, yet he did not desire to crowd us up to our exact limits.

A few days afterwards he sent me the map with his proposed line marked on it in red ink. He ran it from a lake near the confines of Georgia, but east of the Flint river, to the confluence of the Kanawa with the Ohio, thence round the western shores of Lakes Erie and Huron, and thence round Lake Michigan to Lake Superior.

On the 10th of August I carried this map to the Count de Vergennes and left it with him. Dr. Franklin joined with me in pointing out the extravagance of this line; and I must do him the justice to say, that in all his letters to me, and in all his conversations with me respecting our western extent, he has invariably declared it to be his opinion that we should insist upon the Mississippi as our western boundary, and that we ought not, by any means, to part with our right to the free navigation of it. . . .

The Count d'Aranda was very urgent that I should mark on his map some line or other to the eastward of the Mississippi to which we could agree; and on the 26th of August we had another conference on these subjects. I told him frankly that we were bound by the Mississippi and that I had no authority to cede any territories east of it to his Catholic majesty, and that all I could do relative to it was to transmit his proposition to Congress for their consideration. . . .

The question between Spain and the United States of North America is, how to regulate their respective limits toward the Ohio and the Mississippi. The Americans pretend that their dominion extends as far as the Mississippi; and Spain maintains the contrary.

M. de Rayneval makes the following memoir respecting the right of the United States to the navigation of the Mississippi; also suggests a boundary line:

The principles now established are as applicable to Spain as to the United States. This power can not extend its claims beyond the bounds of its conquests.

She can not, therefore, pass beyond the Natchez, situated towards the thirty-first degree of latitude, her rights are, therefore, confined to this degree; what is beyond is either independent or belonging to England; neither Spain nor the Americans can have any pretensions thereto. The future treaty of peace can alone regulate the respective rights.

The consequence of all that has been said is, that neither Spain nor the United States has the least right of sovereignty over the savages in question, and that the transactions they may carry on as to this country would be to no purpose . . .

This arrangement may be made in the following manner. A right line should be drawn from the eastern angle of the Gulf of Mexico, which makes the section between the two Floridas, to Fort Toulouse, situated in the country of the Alabamas. [various places here mentioned]. This last to be followed to its source, from whence a right line is to be drawn to Cumberland River, whose course is to be followed until it falls into the Ohio. The savages to the westward of the line described should be free under the protection of Spain those to the eastward should be free, and under the protection of the United States; or, rather, the Americans may make such arrangements with them as is most convenient to themselves. The trade should be free to both parties. . . . Whatever may be the case with that part which is beyond this point to the north, the United States of America can have no pretensions to it, not being the masters of either border of this river. . . .

The perusal of this memoir convinced me—

1st. That this court [French] would, at a peace, oppose our extension to the Mississippi.

2dly. That they would oppose our claim to the free navigation of that river.

3dly. That they would probably support the British claims to all the country above the thirty-first degree of latitude, and certainly to all the country north of the Ohio. . . .

NOTE.—Jared Sparks believes the facts do not sustain Mr. Jay.—*Diplomatic History*, VI, 22, 23, 24, 25,

Mr. Jay in the same letter makes the following remarks in regard to the relation England and the United States should sustain to each other:

That it would not be less impolitic [for England] to oppose us on the point of boundary and the navigation of the Mississippi —

1st. Because our right to extend to the Mississippi was proved by our charters and other acts of the government and our right to its navigation was deducible from the laws of nature and the consequences of revolution, which vested in us every British territorial right. It was easy, therefore, to foresee what opinions and sensations the mere attempt to dispossess us of these rights would diffuse throughout America.

2ndly. Because the profits of an extensive and lucrative commerce, and not the possession of vast tracts of wilderness, were the true objects of a commercial European nation.

That by our extending to the Mississippi to the West, and to the proclamation bounds of Canada to the North, and by consenting to the mutual free navigation of our several lakes and rivers, there would be an inland navigation from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to that of Mexico by means of which the inhabitants west and north of the mountains might with more ease be supplied with foreign commodities from the ports of the Atlantic and that this immense and growing trade would be in a manner monopolized by Great Britain, as we should not insist that she should admit other nations to navigate the waters that belonged to her. That, therefore, the navigation of the Mississippi would in future be no less important to her than to us, it being the only convenient outlet through which they could transport the productions of the western country, which they would receive in payment for the merchandise vended there.

That as to retaining any part of that country, or insisting to extend Canada so as to comprehend the lands in question, it would be impolitic for these further rea-

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 to touch the Bay of Fundy
 excepting such islands as now
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 Nova Scotia . . . Diplomatic
 1798

Mr. Jay, and Laurens write to
 Congress, December 14, 1782:—
 The honor to congratulate Congress on

sons. Because it would not be in their power either to settle or govern that country, that we should refuse to lend them any aid, and that the utmost exertions of Congress could not prevent our people from taking gradual possession of it by making establishments in different parts of it. That it certainly could not be wise in Britain, whatever it might be in other nations, thus to sow the seed of future war in the very treaty of peace, or to lay in it the foundation of such distrusts and jealousies as on the one hand would forever prevent confidence and real friendship, and on the other naturally lead us to strengthen our security by intimate and permanent alliances with other nations.

I desired Mr. Vaughan to communicate these few remarks to Lord Shelburne, and to impress him with the necessity and policy of taking a decided and manly part respecting America. . . . —*Diplomatic Correspondence*, VI, 31-32.

J. Adams to Livingston, Nov. 18, 1782:

. . . What can we do? If the French minister advises us to cede to the Spaniards the whole river of the Mississippi and five hundred miles territory to the eastward of it, are we bound by our instructions to put our signature to the cession, when the English themselves are willing that we should extend to the river, and enjoy our natural right to its navigation? . . . —*Ib.*, VI. 52-53.

Boundary article from the preliminary treaty of peace, Nov. 30, 1782:

ARTICLE II. From the northwest angle of Nova Scotia, viz., that angle which is formed by a line drawn due north from the source of the St. Croix River to the highlands, along the highlands which divide those rivers that empty themselves into the river St. Lawrence from those which fall into the Atlantic ocean, to the northwesternmost head of Connecticut river; thence down along the middle of that river to the 45th degree of north latitude; from thence by a line due west on said latitude until it strikes the river Iroquois or Cataroquy; thence along the middle of said river into Lake Ontario; through the

middle of said lake until it arrives at the water communication between that lake and Lake Erie, through the middle of said lake until it arrives at the water communication between that lake and Lake Huron, thence along the middle of said water communication into the lake Huron, thence through the middle of said lake to the water communication between that lake and Lake Superior, thence through Lake Superior northward to the Isles Royales and Phippeaux to the Long Lake, thence through the middle of said Long Lake and the water communication between it and the Lake of the Woods to the said Lake of the Woods, thence through the said lake to the most northwestern part thereof and from thence on a due west course to the river Mississippi, thence by a line to be drawn along the middle of the said river Mississippi until it shall intersect the northernmost part of the 31st degree of north latitude south by a line to be drawn due east from the determination of the line last mentioned in the latitude of 31st degree north of the equator, to the middle of the river Apalachicola or Catahouchi, thence along the middle thereof to its junction with the Flint River, thence straight to the head of St. Mary's River to the Atlantic Ocean. East by a line to be drawn along the middle of the River St. Croix from its mouth in the Bay of Fundy to its source; and from its source directly north to the aforesaid highlands which divide the rivers that fall into the Atlantic Ocean from those which fall into the river St. Lawrence, comprehending all islands within twenty leagues of any part of the shores of the United States, and lying between lines to be drawn due East from the points where the aforesaid boundaries between Nova Scotia on the one part and East Florida on the other, shall respectively touch the Bay of Fundy and the Atlantic Ocean; excepting such islands as now are, or heretofore have been, within the limits of the said province of Nova Scotia . . . *Diplomatic Correspondence, VI, 97-98.*

Adams, Franklin, Jay, and Laurens write to Livingston as follows, December 14, 1782: —

Sir, — We have the honor to congratulate Congress on

the signature of the preliminaries of a peace between the crown of Great Britain and the United States of America to be inserted in a definite treaty so soon as the terms between the crowns of France and Great Britain shall be agreed on. A copy of the articles is here enclosed, and we cannot but flatter ourselves that they will appear to Congress, as they do to all of us, to be consistent with the honor and interest of the United States, and we are persuaded Congress would be more fully of that opinion if they were apprized of all the circumstances and reasons which have influenced the negotiation. Although it is impossible for us to go into ~~that~~ detail, we think it necessary, nevertheless, to make a few remarks on such of the articles as appear most to require elucidation.

REMARKS ON ARTICLE 2, RELATIVE TO BOUNDARIES.

The court of Great Britain insisted on retaining all the territories comprehended within the Province of Quebec by the act of Parliament respecting it. They contended that Nova Scotia should extend to the river Kennebec, and they claimed not only all the lands in the western country and on the Mississippi which were not expressly included in our charters and governments, but also all such lands within them as remained ungranted by the King of Great Britain. It would be endless to enumerate all the discussions and arguments on the subject.

We knew this court and Spain to be against our claims to the western country, and having no reason to think that lines more favorable could ever have been obtained, we finally agreed to those described in this article, indeed they appear to leave us little to complain of and not much to desire. Congress will observe that, although our northern line is in a certain part below the latitude of forty-five, yet in others it extends above it, divides the Lake Superior, and gives us access to its western and southern waters, from which a line in that latitude would have excluded us.—*Ib.* VI, 131-32.

Madison's Report of Debates in Congress, relating to the treaty of peace, Dec. 24, 1782:—

. . . If Great Britain, therefore, yields the fisheries and the back territory, America will feel the obligation to her, not to France, who appears to be liberal as to the first and favorable to Spain as to the second object, and consequently has forfeited the confidence of the States interested in either of them. Candor will suggest, however, that the situation in France is and has been extremely perplexing. The object of her blood and money was not only the independence, but the commerce and gratitude, of America; the commerce to render independence the more useful, the gratitude to render that commerce the more permanent. It was necessary therefore, she supposed, that America should be exposed to the cruelties of her enemies and be made sensible of her own weakness, in order to be grateful to the hand that relieved her. . . .
—*Diplomatic Correspondence*, VI, 162.

Gerrard to Vergennes, Jan'y 28, 1779.
This is very suggestive of the views at that time:

I must tell you, sir, that my suggestions relative to Florida and the Mississippi made a good deal of impression. The committee on foreign relations, composed of a delegate from each State, has been especially charged with that object. The committee made it the subject of several of its sittings, and the President declared to me that the committee did not want to do anything without my previous advice. The majority inclines to my views; some others wanted to find a compromise; and others thought that possession of the navigation of the Mississippi is absolutely indispensable. The two latter classes base themselves on the interests of the population which is settled on the Ohio and Illinois Rivers in the Natchez Country and in eastern Florida. They say that they can not abandon their compatriots who have established themselves there as a part of the nation, and who demand to be admitted to the American Confederation. I answered that in a matter of such supreme importance we must not permit considerations of personal interest and convenience to interfere with what may be the general interests of the republic. I repeated the arguments of

which I have already had the honor to render an account to you, and I added that the United States had not the slightest right to the possessions of the King of England that did not equally belong to the King of Spain when he was at war with England, that their title was limited to the territory that they held as English colonies; that claiming settlements outside would be at variance with the principles of justice and of equity that directed the revolution, and would show an unjust desire of conquest even before they had taken their just shape; that their ambition imposed upon them the necessity of not concealing from them my sentiments; I declared that the King would never prolong the war for one day to procure them the possessions that they coveted; that this claim was totally foreign to the principles of the alliance and especially to the relations of France with Spain, that harmony could never be established while Spain had so great a subject for jealousy, that Congress must see to what danger they would find themselves exposed in the course of time if pressed between the English of Canada and the Spanish, those two powers should unite their resentments; finally, that America presented herself in the political world as formed of thirteen states, limited by strict rules of law, and that nothing could be more dangerous for their honor, their influence, the permanency of their principles and confidence in their good faith; that they considered themselves a commercial republic, that could not even maintain a permanent army, that they already felt how much the extent of their territory rendered it difficult for them to establish an efficient and active administration; and that such an enormous extension of territory would indefinitely augment that inconvenience and tend to make that immense empire fall under its own weight. . . .
—*Diplomatic Correspondence, VI, 167-68.*

Livingston writes to Washington concerning the boundary agreement as follows: —

. . . . The second [article] describes our boundaries which are as extensive as we could wish. . . . —*Ib. VI, 291.*

QUESTIONS.

1. What sudden change in the spirit of the English people does George III note? (2) How did he feel in

regard to it? (3) Can you see any change in the relation of the King to his cabinet produced by the change in Parliament and in public opinion? (4) Can you discover from these quotations how George III felt toward the American people?

1. What various positions were taken in regard to the boundaries that the United States should have? (2) Note position of United States as shown (a) in Livingston's instructions, (b) debates in Congress, (c) statements of Gerrard. (3) Note fears of Jay and Adams of intentions of France. (4) What claims did Spain make? (5) Outline the arguments of (a) the United States, (b) France and French statesmen, (c) Spanish statesmen, (d) England and her diplomatists. (6) Draw a map to bring out the various proposed boundaries. (7) Give the positions and arguments in regard to the Mississippi boundary line, and its navigation. (8) What boundaries did Franklin suggest? (9) What his line of argument? (10) What relation between France and the United States that made it difficult for the United States to make a treaty of peace with England. (11) What command did Congress lay on our commissioners concerning the making a treaty without the consent of France? (12) What did Adams think about the interpretation of these instructions? (13) Were Franklin and Adams in harmony? (14) What position did Jay take?

1. Were the Americans a unit in regard to demanding the Mississippi as a boundary? (2) Did all the Americans like the French? (3) Can you discover an English party forming? (4) Were the people of the United States content with the boundaries actually obtained? (5) Write a connected history of the "First National Boundaries" of the United States, giving page references for your statements.



THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY

First territorial cession to the United States by New York, 1781. Georgia yields her claim, 1802. Between dates of these cessions first territorial domain formed. Total area, 404,953 91 square miles. 1780, resolution of congress to make these ceded lands into territories to be admitted later as states. Northwest land ordinance, 1785. Ordinance for Northwest territory 1784, second one 1787.

CHAPTER III

THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY

THE boundaries of the United States as we have seen were first fixed by the treaty of peace in 1783. The possession of a public domain, or public lands, began almost contemporaneously with our existence as an independent nation. In this number I have attempted to trace the steps which led up to the acquisition of this vast public domain, and to give a few points in regard to its use and its government.

Few measures in American history have been more far reaching in their influence than those connected with the territorial growth of the United States. The principles established in the years from 1780 to 1787 have been the ones followed down to our own day. Nationality was hastened, if not made possible, by the land cessions of the various States. The acquisition of a public domain to be carved into states to be admitted into the union on an equality with the original States have been the basis of our growth from 13 to 45 commonwealths. The provisions for the government of this territory have been followed as each

territorial acquisition has been made, from the purchase of Louisiana to the annexation of Alaska. It seems impossible to overestimate the importance of the principles established at this time, and it is hoped that the extracts made are so nearly complete that they may be studied in a very satisfactory manner. In no other study of the series has it been possible to come so near to giving all the material needed for the formation of a final judgment. Lastly it is believed that these extracts will throw much light on present problems, if they are to be solved in harmony with the spirit of the "fathers" in the ascendancy.

The beginning of the question of the disposition of the unoccupied Western lands:

In June, 1776, Virginia declared in her constitution that "The western and northern extent of Virginia shall in all other respects stand as fixed by the charter of King James the First, in the year one thousand six hundred and nine, and by the public treaty of peace between the courts of Great Britain and France in the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty-three, unless by an act of legislature one or more territories shall hereafter be laid off and governments established west of the Alleghany mountains

On October 30, 1776, the Maryland Convention passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, unanimously, That it is the opinion of this Convention that the very extensive claim of the State of Virginia to the back lands hath no foundation in justice, and that if the same or any like claim is admitted, the freedom of the smaller states and the liberties of America may be thereby greatly endangered; this Convention being firmly persuaded that if the dominion over these lands should be established by the

blood and treasure of the United States, such lands ought to be considered as a common stock, to be parcelled out at proper times into convenient, free and independent governments. . . . —Cited by Sato in *"History of the Land Question in the United States,"* pp 26, J H. U Publications

The first attempts to pass resolutions by Congress in regard to the management of the Western lands:—

That in order to render the present union and confederacy firm and perpetual, it is essential that the limits of each respective territorial jurisdiction should be ascertained by the articles of confederation; and, therefore it is recommended to the legislatures of every state to lay before Congress a description of the territorial lands of each of their respective states, and a summary of the grants, treaties, and proofs upon which they are claimed or established. [Passed in the negative]

It was then moved "that the United States in Congress assembled, shall have the sole and exclusive right and power to ascertain and fix the western boundary of such states as claim to the South Sea and to dispose of all land beyond the boundary so ascertained, for the benefit of the United States," question put, passed in the negative.

It was then moved "that the United States in Congress assembled, shall have the sole and exclusive right and power to ascertain and fix the western boundary of such states as claim to the Mississippi or South Sea, and lay out the land beyond the boundary, so ascertained, into separate and independent states, from time to time, as the numbers and circumstances of the people thereof may require. [defeated also]. —*Journals of Congress, Vol. II, p. 290. [ed. 1-23.]*

Delaware, in February 1779, through its legislature, makes the following declaration of its views:—

Resolved, that this state thinks it necessary, for the

peace and safety of the States to be included in the Union, that a moderate extent of limits should be assigned for such of those States as claim to the Mississippi or South Sea; and that the United States in Congress assembled, should, and ought to have the power of fixing their western limits.

Resolved that this State consider themselves justly entitled to a right in common with the other members of the Union, to that extensive tract of country which lies westward of the frontiers of the United States, the property of which was not vested in, or granted to, individuals at the commencement of the present war:— that the same hath been or may be, gained from the King of Great Britain, or the native Indians, by the blood and treasure of all, and ought therefore to be a common estate, to be granted out on terms beneficial to the United States. *Donaldson, the Public Domain*, pp. 60-61.

May 21, 1779, the delegates of Maryland in Congress laid before that body their instructions in regard to the views of their state concerning the disposition that should be made of the western lands; in part they read:—

. . . Is it possible that those states, who are ambitiously grasping at territories, to which in our judgment they have not the least shadow of exclusive right, will use with greater moderation the increase of wealth and power derived from those territories, when acquired, than what they have displayed in their endeavors to acquire them? We think not; we are convinced the same spirit which hath prompted them to insist on a claim so extravagant, so repugnant to every principle of justice, so incompatible with the general welfare of all the states, will urge them on to add oppression to injustice. If they should not be incited by a superiority of wealth and strength to oppress by open force their less wealthy and less powerful neighbors, yet the depopulation, and consequently the impoverishment of those states, will necessarily follow, which by an unfair construction of the

confederation may be stripped of a common interest in, and the common benefits to be derived from the western country. Suppose, for instance, Virginia indisputably possessed of the extensive and fertile country to which she has set up a claim, what would be the probable consequences to Maryland of such an undisturbed and undisputed possession? They cannot escape the least discerning.

Virginia, by selling on the most moderate terms a small proportion of the lands in question, would draw into her treasury vast sums of money, and in proportion to the sums arising from such sales, would be enabled to lessen her taxes: lands comparatively cheap and taxes comparatively low, with the lands and taxes of an adjacent state, would quickly drain the state thus disadvantageously circumstanced of its most useful inhabitants, its wealth, and its consequence in the scale of the confederate states would sink of course. A claim so injurious to more than one half, if not to the whole of the United States, ought to be supported by the clearest evidence of the right. Yet what evidences of that right have been produced? what arguments alleged in support either of the evidence or the right; none that we have heard of deserving a serious refutation.

. . . We are convinced policy and justice require that a country unsettled at the commencement of this war, claimed by the British crown, and ceded to it by the treaty of Paris, if wrested from the common enemy by the blood and treasure of the thirteen states, should be considered as a common property, subject to be parcelled out by Congress into free, convenient and independent governments, in such manner, and at such times, as the wisdom of that assembly shall hereafter direct. Thus convinced, we should betray the trust reposed in us by our constituents, were we to authorize you to ratify on their behalf the confederation, unless it be farther explained, we have coolly and dispassionately considered the subject, we have weighed probable inconveniences and hardships against the sacrifice of just and essential rights; and do instruct you not to agree to the confederation, unless an article or articles be added thereto in conformity with our declaration

should we succeed in obtaining such article or articles, then you are hereby fully empowered to accede to the confederation — *Journals of Congress, Vol III, p 281-3.*

Virginia passed a law to open a land office in the West to sell their vacant lands, and began action under the law. Congress on Oct. 30, 1779, passed the following resolutions concerning the action of Virginia:

“Whereas it appears to Congress that the opening the land office in the state of Virginia, for the purpose of locating lands unappropriated at the time independence was declared, has produced such uneasiness, dispute and controversy, and greatly weakened these United States by the emigration of their inhabitants to parts remote from defense against the common enemy; *Resolved*, therefore that it be earnestly recommended to the state of Virginia to re-consider their late act of assembly for opening their land office and that it be recommended to the said state and all other states similarly circumstanced, to forbear settling or issuing warrants for such unappropriated lands, or granting the same during the continuance of the present war.” . . .

“Whereas the appropriation of vacant lands by the several states during the continuance of the war, will, in the opinion of Congress, be attended with great mischief, therefore,”

Resolved, That it be earnestly recommended to the state of Virginia, to re-consider their late act of assembly for opening their land-office, and that it be recommended to the said state, and all other states similarly circumstanced, to forbear settling or issuing warrants for unappropriated lands, or granting the same during the continuance of the present war — *Journals of Congress, III, pp 384-85.*

The legislature of Virginia made the following answer to the protest of Maryland and resolution of Congress:

The general assembly of Virginia, ever attentive to

the recommendations of Congress, and desirous to give the great council of the United States every satisfaction in their power, consistent with the rights and constitution of their own commonwealth, have enacted a law to prevent present settlements on the northwest side of the Ohio river, and will on all occasions endeavor to manifest their attachment to the common interest of America, and their earnest wishes to promote that mutual confidence and harmony between the different states so essential to their true interest and safety

Strongly impressed with these sentiments, the general assembly of Virginia cannot avoid expressing their surprise and concern, upon the information that Congress had received and countenanced petitions from certain persons styling themselves the Vandavia and Indiana Company's, asserting claims to lands in defiance of the civil authority, jurisdiction and laws of this commonwealth, and offering to erect a separate government within the territory thereof. Should Congress assume a jurisdiction, and arrogate to themselves a right of adjudication, not only unwarranted by, but expressly contrary to the fundamental principles of the federation; superseding or controuling the internal policy, civil regulations, and municipal laws of this or any other state, it would be a violation of public faith, introduce a most dangerous precedent which might hereafter be urged to deprive of territory or subvert the sovereignty and government of any one or more of the United States, and establish in Congress a power which in process of time must degenerate into an intolerable despotism. . . .

Congress have lately described and ascertained the boundaries of these United States, as an ultimatum in their terms of peace. The United States hold no territory but in right of some one individual state in the Union; the territory of each state for time immemorial, hath been fixed and determined by their respective charters, there being no other rule or criterion to judge by, should these in any instance (when there is no disputed territory between particular states) be abridged without the consent of the States effected by it, general confusion must ensue; each state would be subjected in

its turn to the encroachments of the others, and a field opened for future wars and bloodshed, nor can any arguments be fairly urged to prove that any particular tract of country, within the limits claimed by congress on behalf of the United States, is not part of the chartered territory of some one of them, but must militate with equal force against the right of the United States, in general; and tend to prove such tract of country (if northwest of the Ohio river) part of the British province of Canada.

When Virginia acceded to the articles of Confederation, her rights of sovereignty and jurisdiction within her own territory were reserved and secured to her, and cannot now be infringed or altered without her consent. She could have no latent views of extending that territory, because it had long before been expressly and clearly defined in the act which formed her new government.

The general assembly of Virginia have heretofore offered Congress to furnish lands out of their territory on the northwest side of the Ohio river, without purchase money, to the troops on continental establishment of such of the confederated states as had not unappropriated lands for that purpose, in conjunction with the other states holding unappropriated lands, and in such proportion as should be adjusted and settled by Congress, which offer when accepted they will most cheerfully make good to the same extent, with the provision made by law for their own troops, if Congress shall think fit to allow the like quantities of land to the other troops on continental establishment. But altho' the general assembly of Virginia would make great sacrifices to the common interest of America (as they have already done on the subject of representation) and will be ready to listen to any just and reasonable propositions for removing the ostensible causes of delay to the complete ratification of the confederation, they find themselves impelled by the duties which they owe to their constituents, to their posterity, to their country and to the United States in general, to remonstrate and protest, and they do hereby, in the name and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, expressly protest

against any jurisdiction or right of adjudication in Congress, upon the petitions of the Vandalia or Indiana Company's, or on any other matter or thing subversive of the internal policy, civil government, or sovereignty of this or any other of the United American States, or unwarranted by the articles of the confederation — *Hening, Statutes at Large of Virginia, Vol. X, pp 557-57*

The New York legislature passed the following resolution, March 7, 1780, and carried it into execution, March 1, 1781:

Whereas nothing under Divine Providence can more effectually contribute to the tranquility and safety of the United States of America than federal alliance, on such liberal principles as will give satisfaction to its respective members: And whereas the Articles of Confederation and perpetual Union recommended by the honorable the Congress of the United States of America have not proved acceptable to all the States, it having been conceived that a portion of the waste and uncultivated territory within the limits or claims of certain States ought to be appropriated as a common fund for the expenses of the war And the people of the State of New York being on all occasions disposed to manifest their regard for their sister States, and more especially to accelerate the federal alliance, by removing, as far as it depends upon them, the before-mentioned impediment to its final accomplishment.

Be it therefore enacted by the people of the State of New York, represented in senate and assembly, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the delegates of this State in the honorable Congress of the United States of America . . . to limit and restrict the boundaries of this State, in the western parts thereof, by such line or lines, and in such manner and form, as they shall judge to be expedient . . .

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid That all lands to be ceded and relinquished by virtue of this act . . . shall be and inure for the use and benefit of such of the United States as shall become

members of the federal alliance of the said States, and for no other use or purpose whatever — *Donaldson, Public Domain, p. 63.*

Congress replied to the Maryland resolutions, September 6, 1780:

That having duly considered the several matters to them submitted, they conceive it unnecessary to examine into the merits or policy of the instructions or declaration of the general assembly of Maryland, or of the remonstrance of the general assembly of Virginia, as they involve questions, a discussion of which was declined on mature consideration, when the articles of confederation were debated, nor, in the opinion of the committee, can such questions be now revived with any prospect of conciliation, that it appears more advisable to press upon those states which can remove the embarrassments respecting the western country, a liberal surrender of a portion of their territorial claims, since they cannot be preserved entire without endangering the stability of the general confederacy, to remind them how indispensably necessary it is to establish the federal union on a fixed and permanent basis, and on principles acceptable to all its respective members; how essential to public credit and confidence, to the support of our army, to the vigour of our councils and success of our measures, to our tranquility at home, our reputation abroad, to our very existence as a free, sovereign and independent people; that they are fully persuaded the wisdom of the respective legislatures will lead them to a full and impartial consideration of a subject so interesting to the United States, and so necessary to the happy establishment of the federal union, that they are confirmed in these expectations by a review of the beforementioned act of the legislature of New York, submitted to their consideration; that this act is expressly calculated to accelerate the federal alliance, by removing, as far as depends on that state, the impediment arising from the western country, and for that purpose to yield up a portion of territorial claim for the general benefit; Whereupon, . . .

Journals of Congress, III, pp 516 17

Maryland acts: Resolutions of February 12, 1781:

"Whereas it hath been said that the common enemy is encouraged by this state not acceding to the confederation, to hope that the union of the sister states may be dissolved; and therefore prosecutes the war in expectation of an event so disgraceful to America, and our friends and illustrious ally are impressed with an idea that the common cause would be promoted by our formally acceding to the confederation, this general assembly, conscious that this state hath, from the commencement of the war, strenuously exerted herself in the common cause, and fully satisfied that if no formal confederation was to take place it is the fixed determination of this state to continue her exertions to the utmost, agreeable to the faith pledged in the union, from an earnest desire to conciliate the affection of the sister states; to convince all the world of our unalterable resolution to support the independence of the United States, and the alliance with his most Christian majesty, and to destroy forever any apprehension of our friends, or hope in our enemies, of this state being again united to Great Britain

"Be it enacted by the general assembly of Maryland, that the delegates of this state in Congress, or any two or three of them, shall be and are hereby, empowered and required, on behalf of this state, to subscribe the articles of confederation and perpetual union between the states of New Hampshire, [Names of other states] . . . And it is hereby declared, that, by acceding to the said confederation, this state doth not relinquish, or intend to relinquish, any right or interest she hath, with the other united or confederated states, to the back country, but claims the same as fully as was done by the legislature of this state, in their declaration, which stands entered on the journals of Congress, this state relying on the justice of the several states hereafter, as to the said claim made by this state *Journals of Congress Vol III. pp 576-77*

Resolution of Congress, October 10, 1780:

"Resolved, That the unappropriated lands that may

be ceded or relinquished to the United States, by any particular state, pursuant to the recommendation of Congress of the 6th day of September last, shall be disposed of for the common benefit of the United States, and be settled and formed into distinct republican States, which shall become members of the Federal Union, and have the same rights and sovereignty, freedom and independence as the other states, that each state which shall be so formed shall contain a suitable extent of territory, not less than one hundred nor more than one hundred and fifty miles square, or as near thereto as circumstances will admit; that the necessary and reasonable expenses which any particular State shall have incurred since the commencement of the present war, in subduing any British posts, or in maintaining forts or garrisons within and for the defense, or in acquiring any part of the territory that may be ceded or relinquished to the United States, shall be reimbursed.

“That the said lands shall be granted or settled at such times, and under such regulations, as shall hereafter be agreed on by the United States, in Congress assembled, or any nine or more of them *Donaldson,*
p 64

New York Cession, March 1, 1781.

. . . And we do, by these presents, in the name of the people and for and on behalf of the State of New York, and by virtue of the power and trust committed to us by the said act and commission, cede, transfer and forever relinquish to, and for the only use and benefit of such of the States as are or shall become parties to the Articles of Confederation, all the right, title, interest, jurisdiction and claim, of the said state of New York, to all lands and territories to the northward and westward of the boundaries, to which the said state is in manner aforesaid limited and restricted, and to be granted, disposed of and appropriated in such manner only as the Congress of the United States of Confederate States shall order and direct

In testimony whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names, and affixed our seals, in Congress, the first day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand

seven hundred and eighty-one, and of our Independence the fifth. . . . *Donaldson, p. 67.*

Virginia cession, March 1, 1784.

Whereas the general assembly of Virginia, at their session, commencing on the 20th day of October, 1783, passed an act to authorize their delegates in Congress to convey to the United States in Congress assembled, all the right of that Commonwealth to the territory northwestward of the river Ohio, and whereas the delegates of the said Commonwealth have presented to Congress the form of a deed proposed to be executed pursuant to the said act, in the words following.

"To all who shall see these presents, we, Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Hardy, Arthur Lee, and James Monroe, the underwritten delegates for the Commonwealth of Virginia, in the Congress of the United States of America, send greeting.

"Whereas the general assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia, at their session begun on the 20th day of October, 1783, passed an act entitled "An act to authorize the delegates of this state in Congress, to convey to the United States in Congress assembled, all the right of this Commonwealth to the territory northwestward of the river Ohio, in these words following, to wit:

"Whereas, the Congress of the United States did by their act of the sixth day of September, in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty, recommend to the several states in the Union, having claims to waste and unappropriated lands in the western country, a liberal cession to the United States, of a portion of their respective claims, for the common benefit of the Union: and whereas this Commonwealth did, on the second day of January, in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one, yield to the Congress of the United States, for the benefit of the States, all right, title and claim, which the said Commonwealth had to the territory northwest of the river Ohio, subject to the conditions annexed to the said act of cession.

"And, whereas the United States in Congress assembled have by their act of the 13th of September last

stipulated the terms on which they agree to accept the cession of this state, should the legislature approve thereof, which terms, although they do not come fully up to the propositions of this commonwealth, are conceived, on the whole, to approach so nearly to them, as to induce this state to accept thereof, in full confidence, that Congress will, in justice to this state, for the liberal cession she has made, earnestly press upon the other states claiming large tracts of waste and uncultivated territory, the propriety of making cessions equally liberal, for the common benefit and support of Union.

"Be it enacted by the general assembly, That it shall and may be lawful for the delegates of this State to the Congress of the United States, or such of them as shall be assembled in Congress, and the said delegates, or such of them so assembled, are hereby fully authorized and empowered, for and on behalf of this State, by proper deeds or instruments in writing, under their hands and seals, to convey, transfer, assign, and make over, unto the United States in Congress assembled, for the benefit of the said States, all right, title and claim, as well of soil as jurisdiction, which this Commonwealth hath to the territory or tract of country within the limits of the Virginia charter, situate, lying, and being, to the northwest of the river Ohio, subject to the terms and conditions contained in the before-recited act of Congress of the thirteenth day of September last, that is to say, upon condition that the territory so ceded shall be laid out and formed into States, containing a suitable extent of territory, not less than one hundred, nor more than one hundred and fifty miles square, or as near thereto as circumstances will admit and that the States so formed shall be distinct republican states, and admitted members of the federal Union; having the same rights of sovereignty, freedom, and independence, as the other States . . .

"Now, therefore, know ye, that we, the said Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Hardy, Arthur Lee, and James Monroe, by virtue of the power and authority committed to us by the act of the general assembly of Virginia before recited and in the name and for and on behalf

of the said Commonwealth, do, by these presents, convey, transfer, assign, and make over, unto the United States, in Congress assembled, for the benefit of the said states, Virginia inclusive, all right, title and claim, as well of soil as jurisdiction, which the said Commonwealth hath to the territory or tract of country within the limits of the Virginia charter, situate, lying, and being, to the northwest of the river Ohio, to and for the uses and purposes and on the conditions of the said recited act. In testimony whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names and affixed our seals, in Congress, the first day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, and of the Independence of the United States the eighth.—*Donaldson, pp. 68-69.*

Later action by Virginia: Dec. 30, 1788 :—

“Whereas, the United States, in Congress assembled, did, on the seventh day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, state certain reasons shewing that a division of the territory which hath been ceded to the said United States, by this Commonwealth, into States, in conformity to the terms of cession, should the same be adhered to, would be attended with many inconveniences and did recommend a revision of the act of cession, so far as to empower Congress to make such a division of the said territory into distinct and republican states, not more than five or less than three in number, as the situation of that country and future circumstances might require And the said United States, in Congress assembled, have, in an ordinance for the government of the territory northwest of the river Ohio, passed on the thirteenth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, declared the following as one of the articles of compact between the original states and the people and States in the said territory, viz

“Article 5 There shall be formed in the said territory not less than three, nor more than five States : - . .

Be it therefore enacted by the general assembly, That the afore-recited article of compact between the original States and the people and states in the territory

northwest of Ohio River be, and the same is hereby ratified and confirmed, anything in the contrary in the deed of cession of the said territory by this Commonwealth to the United States notwithstanding.—*Donaldson, p. 70.*

Cession by Massachusetts: April 19, 1785:—

"Whereas the general court of Massachusetts, on the thirteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four, passed an act, entitled "An act empowering the delegates of this Commonwealth in the United States in Congress Assembled to relinquish to the United States certain lands, the property of this Commonwealth," in the words following "Whereas several of the states in the Union have at present no interest in the great and extensive tract of uncultivated country, lying in the westerly part of the United States, and it may be reasonable that the states above mentioned should be interested in the aforesaid country: Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives in general court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the delegates of this Commonwealth in the United States in Congress assembled, or any three of the said delegates, be, and they hereby are, authorized and empowered, for and in behalf of this Commonwealth, to cede or relinquish, by authentic conveyance or conveyances, to the United States, to be disposed of for the common benefit of the same, agreeably to a resolve of Congress of October the tenth, one thousand seven hundred and eighty, such part of that tract of land, belonging to this Commonwealth, which lies between the river Hudson and Mississippi, as they may think proper, and to make the said cession in such manner, and on such conditions as shall appear to them to be most suitable " . —*Donaldson, p. 71.*

Connecticut cedes her claim, Sept. 13, 1786.

To all who shall see these presents, we, William Samuel Johnson and Jonathan Sturges, the underwritten delegates for the State of Connecticut in the Congress of the United States, send greeting

Whereas the general assembly of the State of Connecticut, on the second Thursday of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-six passed an act in the following words, viz. "Be it enacted by the governor, council, and representatives, in general court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the delegates of this State, or any two of them, who shall be attending the Congress of the United States, be and they are hereby directed, authorized and fully empowered, in the name and behalf of this state, to make, execute and deliver, under their hands and seals, an ample deed of release and cession of all the right, title, interest, jurisdiction, and claim, of the State of Connecticut, to certain western lands, beginning at the completion of the forty-first degree of north latitude, one hundred and twenty miles west of the western boundary line of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as now claimed by said Commonwealth, and from thence by a line drawn north, parallel to, and one hundred and twenty miles west of the said west line of Pennsylvania, and to continue north until it comes to forty-two degrees and two minutes north latitude. Whereby all the right, title, interest, jurisdiction and claim, of the State of Connecticut, to the lines lying west of said line to be drawn as aforementioned, one hundred and twenty miles west of the western boundary line of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as now claimed by said Commonwealth, shall be included, released and ceded to the United States in Congress assembled, for the common use and benefit of the said states, Connecticut inclusive." Now, therefore, know ye that we, the said William Samuel Johnson and Jonathan Sturges, by virtue of the power and authority to us committed by the said act of the general assembly of Connecticut, before recited, in the name and on behalf of the said State of Connecticut, do, by these presents, assign, transfer, quit claim, cede, and convey to the United States of America, for their benefit, Connecticut inclusive, all the right, title, interest, jurisdiction, and claim, which the said state of Connecticut hath in and to the before mentioned and described territory or tract of country, as the same is

bounded and described in the said act of assembly, for the use in the said recited act of assembly declared.
—*Donaldson, pp. 72-73.*

South Carolina takes similar action, 1787.

North Carolina joins with the other states, 1790:

"Whereas the general assembly of the State of North Carolina, on the (22nd) day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine, passed an act, entitled, "An act for the purpose of ceding to the United States of America certain western lands therein described," in the words following, to-wit;

'Whereas, the United States, in Congress assembled, have repeatedly and earnestly recommended to the respective States in the Union, claiming or owning vacant western territory, to make cessions of part of the same, as a further means, as well of hastening the extinguishment of the debts, as of establishing the harmony of the United States; and the inhabitants of the said western territory being also desirous that such cession should be made, in order to obtain a more ample protection than they have heretofore received: Now this state, being ever desirous of doing ample justice to the public creditors, as well as the establishing the harmony of the United States, and complying with the reasonable desires of her citizens. . . . [Terms of cession follow.]

Georgia and the United States enter into an agreement concerning the western lands of the state:

Articles of agreement and cession, entered into on the twenty-fourth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and two, between the commissioners appointed on the part of the United States, by virtue of an act entitled "An act for an amicable settlement of limits within the state of Georgia, and authorizing the establishment of a government in the Mississippi Territory," and of the act supplemental to the last-mentioned act on the one part; and the commissioners appointed on

the part of the State of Georgia, by virtue of an act entitled "An act to carry the twenty-third section of the first article of the constitution into effect," and of the act to amend the last mentioned act, on the other part,

ARTICLE 1. The State of Georgia cedes to the United States all the right, title, and claim, which the said State has to the jurisdiction and soil of the lands situated within the boundaries of the United States, south of the State of Tennessee, and west of a line beginning on the western bank of the Chatahouchee River, where the same crosses the boundary line between the United States and Spain, running thence up the said river Chatahouchee, and along the western bank thereof to the great bend thereof, next above the place where a certain creek or river, called "Uchee" (being the first considerable stream on the western side, above the Cussetas and Coweta towns), empties into the said Chatahouchee River, thence in a direct line to Nickajack on the Tennessee River, thence crossing the said last mentioned river, and thence running up the said Tennessee River, and along the western bank thereof, to the southern boundary line of the State of Tennessee, upon the following express conditions, and subject thereto, that is to say: . . . [Here follow five conditions.]

Fifthly—That the territory thus ceded shall form a state, and be admitted as such into the Union, as soon as it shall contain sixty thousand free inhabitants, or at an earlier period if Congress shall think it expedient, on the same conditions and restrictions, with the same privileges, and in the same manner, as is provided in the ordinance of Congress of the thirteenth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, for the government of the western territory of the United States, which ordinance shall, in all its parts, extend to the territory contained in the present act of cession, that article only excepted which forbids slavery.

—*Donaldsen, pp 80-81.*

The more important clauses of the Ordinance of 1787 for the government of the North-west Territory follow:

It is hereby ordained and declared, by the authority aforesaid, That the following articles shall be considered as articles of compact between the original states and the people and states in the said territory, and forever remain unalterable, unless by common consent, to-wit.

ARTICLE 1. No person, demeaning himself in a peaceable and orderly manner, shall ever be molested on account of his mode of worship or religious sentiments, in the said territory

ART. 2. The inhabitants of the said territory shall always be entitled to the benefits of the writ of habeas corpus, and of the trial by jury, of a proportionate representation of the people in the legislature, and of judicial proceedings according to the course of the common law. All persons shall be bailable, unless for capital offenses, where the proof shall be evident, or the presumption great. All fines shall be moderate; and no cruel or unusual punishment shall be inflicted. No man shall be deprived of his liberty or property, but by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land, and should the public exigencies make it necessary, for the common preservation, to take any person's property, or to demand his particular services, full compensation shall be made for the same. And, in the just preservation of rights and property, it is understood and declared, that no law ought ever to be made, or have force in the said territory, that shall, in any manner whatever, interfere with, or effect, private contracts or engagements, bona fide, and without fraud, previously formed.

ART 3 Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged. The utmost good faith shall always be observed toward the Indians; their lands and property shall never be taken from them without their consent; and in their property, rights and liberty, they never shall be invaded or disturbed, unless in just and lawful wars authorized by Congress; but laws founded in justice and humanity shall, from time to time, be made, for preventing wrongs being done to them, and for preserving peace and friendship with them

ART. 4. The said territory, and the States which may

be formed therein, shall forever remain a part of this confederacy of the United States of America, subject to the Articles of Confederation and to such alterations therein as shall be constitutionally made, and to all the acts and ordinances of the United States in Congress assembled, conformable thereto. The inhabitants and settlers in the said territory shall be subject to pay a part of the federal debts contracted or to be contracted, and a proportional part of the expenses of Government, to be apportioned on them by Congress, according to the same common rule and measure by which apportionments thereof shall be made on the other States; and the taxes for paying their proportion, shall be laid and levied by the authority and direction of the legislatures of the district or districts, or new States, as in the original States, within the time agreed upon by the United States in Congress assembled. The legislatures of those districts, or new States, shall never interfere with the primary disposal of the soil by the United States in Congress assembled, nor with any regulations Congress may find necessary, for securing the title in such soil, to the bona-fide purchasers. No tax shall be imposed on lands the property of the United States, and in no case shall non-resident proprietors be taxed higher than residents. The navigable waters leading into the Mississippi and St. Lawrence, and the carrying places between the same, shall be common highways, and forever free as well to the inhabitants of the said territory, as to the citizens of the United States, and those of any other States that may be admitted into the confederacy, without any tax, impost, or duty therefor.

ART. 5. There shall be formed in the said territory, not less than three, nor more than five States, and the boundaries of the States, as soon as Virginia shall alter her act of cession, and consent to same, shall become fixed and established as follows, to-wit, the western State in the said territory, shall be bounded by the Mississippi, the Ohio and Wabash rivers; a direct line drawn from the Wabash and Post Vincents, due north, to the territorial line between the United States and Canada, and by the said territorial line to the Lake of the Woods and Mississippi. The middle States shall be

bounded by the said direct line, the Wabash, from Post Vincents to the Ohio, by the Ohio, by a direct line drawn due north from the mouth of the Great Miami to the said territorial line, and by the said territorial line. The eastern State shall be bounded by the last-mentioned direct line, the Ohio, Pennsylvania, and the said territorial line, Provided, however, and it is further understood and declared, that the boundaries of these three States, shall be subject so far to be altered, that, if Congress shall hereafter find it expedient, they shall have authority to form one or two States in that part of the said territory which lies north of an east and west line drawn through the southerly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan. And whenever any of the said States shall have sixty thousand free inhabitants therein, such State shall be admitted, by its delegates, into the Congress of the United States, on an equal footing with the original States, in all respect whatever; and shall be at liberty to form a permanent constitution and State government. Provided, the constitution and government, so to be formed, shall be republican, and in conformity to the principles contained in these articles; and so far as it can be consistent with the general interest of the confederacy, such admission shall be allowed at an earlier period, and when there may be a less number of free inhabitants in the State than sixty thousand.

ART. 6. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted: Provided, always, That any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any one of the original States, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed, and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service as aforesaid.—*Donaldson, pp. 155-56.*

QUESTIONS.

1. What territorial claim did Virginia make? 2. Find out in your history what territory would be included? 3. Where do you find the first suggestion of dividing western territory and admitting the parts into the Union? 4. What State first objected to Virginia's claim? 5. What was meant by "back lands?" 6. Why did Maryland object to Virginia's claim? 7. How did Maryland

propose to dispose of these western lands? 8. Was the majority of Congress at first with Virginia or Maryland? 9. Can you find out why the first propositions to let Congress control these western lands were defeated? 10. What important differences in the then defeated resolutions? 11. Why did Delaware take the same general ground as Maryland? 12. Outline the arguments of Maryland, 1779? 13. What threat did Maryland make to force Virginia and other large States to action? 14. Why did Virginia's opening her land office create such an excitement? 15. How did Virginia answer Maryland and Congress? 16. Which had the better of the argument? 17. What did Virginia offer to do? 18. Was it enough?

1. Make a table to show the date of cession by each State of its claim to western lands. 2. What reason did they give for making their cessions? 3. What important effects on the United States grew out of these cessions? 4. Bring together all the reasons you can find for making the cessions. 5. Was there any difference of opinion in regard to the use that should be made of these ceded lands? 6. What territory was first ceded? 7. Find out from your histories whether the claims of the various States overlapped. 8. If you find they did, do you see any important result growing from the cession? 9. What changes did Virginia make in the terms of her cession? 10. What was the last territory acquired from any State? 11. How did it differ in method from the other acquisitions?

1. Does this history throw any light on the Philippine situation? 2. For what use was the territory to be put? 3. What rights were the people to have? 4. Do you find any suggestion of holding the territory as subject territory?

1. What important principles are found in the law governing this territory, in the Ordinance of 1787? 2. Can you find any clause in the constitution of Nebraska which you can trace to this ordinance? 3. How many states were to be found? (a) at first, (b) later? 4. Trace on a map the boundaries of the states as they were to be by this ordinance. 5. How do they vary as they now are? 6. What change from Art 6 do you find in the Georgia cession? 7. What does the change mean? 8. Write a history of the Territory of the United States from 1776 to 1803

ACQUISITION OF LOUISIANA

Louisiana purchase, 1803. Area, 883,072 square miles. Southeastern boundary in dispute, settled 1819. Southwestern boundary in doubt, settled 1819. Northern boundary uncertain, settled 1818. Did not include the Oregon country. Total cost, \$27,267,621.98. Provision for its admission as states into the Union.

CHAPTER IV

ACQUISITION OF LOUISIANA

WE traced, in our last study, the beginnings of the public domain of the United States. We noticed that the various states which had claims to the Western or unoccupied lands, one after another, ceded their claims until finally a territorial domain was formed whose area exceeded 400,000 square miles ready to be formed into new States as the people moved to the west. In this number we turn to expansion proper, and find that in the Louisiana purchase the area of the Union was more than doubled. The importance of this acquisition from every point of view can scarcely be exaggerated. The industrial possibilities were extended to a degree that we can scarcely yet realize; the area over which freedom and democracy might expand was increased a hundred fold; the probabilities that the United States would develop into a peace-loving nation, standing for industrialism rather than militarism was greatly increased, the idea that the United States was to be the home for the oppressed of all nations was greatly strengthened, if not created by this purchase. New problems were also started, and many old ones made more important. Slavery became a more complex question, in part at least, be-

cause of this acquisition. Again it gave to the Union such a vast territory that it opened up the Pacific to its view and made it possible for the Nation to become the great world power, both in influence and in strength that it is today. And lastly we may say that the present problems, those confronting the American people at the close of the century, may be traced in their beginnings to the study now before us.

The matter is so very voluminous that only a fraction of it has been incorporated into this study.

1. Extract from the treaty of cession:

The President of the United States of America, and the First Consul of the French Republic, in the name of the French people, desiring to remove all source of misunderstanding . . . relative to the rights claimed by the United States, in virtue of the treaty concluded at Madrid, the 27th of October, 1795, between his Catholic majesty and the said United States, and willing to strengthen the union and friendship which at the time of the said convention was happily re-established between the two nations, have respectively named their Plenipotentiaries, . . . who, after having respectively exchanged their full powers, have agreed to the following articles, -

ARTICLE I.

Whereas by the article the third of the treaty concluded at St. Idelfonso, the 9th Vendémiaire, an 9 (1st. October, 1800) between the First Consul of the French Republic and His Catholic Majesty, it was agreed as follows; "His Catholic Majesty promises and engages on his part, to cede to the French Republic . . . the colony or province of Louisiana, with the same extent that it now has in the hands of Spain, and that it had when France possessed it, and such as it should be after the treaties subsequently entered into between Spain and other States." And whereas, in pursuance of the

treaty and particularly of the third article, the French Republic has an incontestible title to the domain and to the possession of the said territory. The First Consul of the French Republic desiring to give to the United States, a strong proof of his friendship, doth hereby cede to the United States, in the name of the French Republic, forever and in full sovereignty, the said territory, with all its rights and appurtenances, as fully and in the same manner as they have been acquired by the French Republic, in virtue of the above-mentioned treaty, concluded with his Catholic Majesty.

ARTICLE III.

The inhabitants of the ceded territory shall be incorporated in the Union of the United States, and admitted as soon as possible, according to the principles of the Federal Constitution, to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages, and immunities of citizens of the United States, and in the meantime they shall be maintained and protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property, and the religion which they profess * * *

Done at Paris the tenth day of Floréal, in the eleventh year of the French Republic, and the 30th of April, 1803.

ROBT R. LIVINGSTON (L. S.)

JAS. MONROE (L. S.)

E. BARBÉ MARBOIS (L. S.)

Cited in MacDonald, Select Documents Illustrative of American History, pp. 161-165.

James Madison, Secretary of State to Mr. Pinckney, the American Minister at Madrid, June 9, 1801: —

. . . . On different occasions, since the commencement of the French Revolution, opinions and reports have prevailed, that some part of the Spanish possessions, including New Orleans and the mouth of the Mississippi, had been or was to be transferred to France. Of late, information has been received through several channels, making it probable that some arrangement for that purpose has been concerted. Neither the extent of the cession, however, nor the consideration on which it is made, is yet reduced to certainty and precision. The whole subject will deserve and engage your early and

vigilant inquiries, and may require a very delicate and circumspect management.—*Gayarre, History of Louisiana, p. 450.*

Feeling of the Western people in regard to the Mississippi river:

. . . "The Mississippi," said the Western people, "is ours by the law of nature, it belongs to us by our numbers, and by the labor which we have bestowed upon those spots which, before our arrival, were desert and barren. Our innumerable rivers swell it, and flow with it into the Gulf of Mexico. Its mouth is the only issue which nature has given to our waters, and we wish to use it for our vessels. No power in the world shall deprive us of this right. We do not prevent the Spaniards and the French from ascending the river to our towns and villages. We wish in turn to descend it without any interruption to its mouth, to ascend it again, and exercise our privileges of trading on it and navigating it at our pleasure. If our most entire liberty in this matter is disputed, nothing shall prevent our taking possession of the capital, and, when we are once masters of it, we shall know how to maintain ourselves there. If Congress refuses us effectual protection, if it forsakes us, we will adopt the measures which our safety requires, even if they endanger the peace of the Union and our connection with the other States. No protection, no allegiance.—*Gayarre, p. 457.*

From Mr. Madison to Mr. Livingston, May, 1802:

The cession of Louisiana to France becomes daily more and more a source of painful apprehension. . . .

. . . A mere neighborhood could not be friendly to the harmony which both countries have so much an interest in cherishing, but if a possession of the mouth of the Mississippi is to be added to the other causes of discord, the worst events are to be apprehended. You will consequently spare no efforts, that will consist with prudence and dignity, to lead the councils of France to proper views of this subject, and to an abandonment of her present purpose. You will also pursue, by prudent means, the inquiry into the extent of the cession—par

ticularly whether it includes the Floridas as well as New Orleans—and endeavor to ascertain the price at which these, if included in the cession, would be yielded to the United States. I cannot, in the present state of things, be more particular on this head than to observe that, in every view, it would be a most precious acquisition, and that, as far as the terms could be satisfied by charging on the acquisition itself the restitutions and other debts to American citizens, great liberality would doubtless be indulged by this government. *Gayarre, pp. 462-63.*

Mr. Livingston to Mr. Madison, Aug. 10, 1802:

. . . I have had several conferences on the subject of Louisiana, but can get nothing more from them than I have already communicated. I have thought it best, by conversation and by writing, to pave the way, prior to my application, till I know better to what object to point. For this purpose, I have written the enclosed essay, which I have translated, and of which I have struck off twenty copies, I have placed some of them in such hands as I think will best serve our purposes. Talleyrand has promised me to give it an attentive perusal; after which, when I find how it works, I will come forward with some proposition. I am very much at a loss, however, as to what terms you would consider it allowable to offer, if they can be brought to a sale of the Floridas, either with or without New Orleans; which last place will be of little consequence, if we possess the Floridas, because a much better passage may be formed on the east side of the river. I may, perhaps, carry my estimate of them too high, but, when I consider, first, the expense it will save to us in guards and garrisons, the risk of war, the value of duties, and next what may be raised by sale of lands, I should think them a cheap purchase. *Gayarre, pp. 467-68.*

Mr. Livingston to President Jefferson, Oct. 28, 1802:

He asked me whether we should prefer the Floridas to Louisiana? I told him that there was no comparison in their value, but that we had no wish to extend our

boundary across the Mississippi, or give color to the doubts that had been entertained of the moderation of our views, that all we sought was security, and not accessions of territory. He replied, that he believed any new cession on the part of Spain would be extremely difficult, that Spain had parted with Trinidad and Louisiana with great reluctance — *Ibid*, p. 470.

Mr. Madison writes to the American Minister at Madrid concerning the denial, by Morales, of a place of deposit, to the Americans, at the mouth of the Mississippi, in part, as follows:

. . . "but," said Mr. Madison, "from whatever source the measure may have proceeded, the President expects that the Spanish government will neither lose a moment in countermanding it, nor hesitate to repair every damage which may result from it. You are aware of the sensibility of our Western citizens to such an occurrence. This sensibility is justified by the interest they have at stake. *The Mississippi to them is everything. It is the Hudson, the Delaware, the Potomac, and all the navigable rivers of the Atlantic states, formed into one stream.* The produce exported through that channel, last year, amounted to eight million six hundred and twenty-two thousand six hundred and seventy-two dollars from the districts of Kentucky and Mississippi only, and will probably be fifty per cent. more this year, from the whole Western country. — *Gayarre, p. 473*

President Jefferson in his message to Congress, Dec. 15, 1802, speaks as follows:—

. . . The cession of the Spanish province of Louisiana to France, which took place in the course of the late war, will, if carried into effect, make a change in the aspect of our foreign relations, which will doubtless have just weight in any deliberations of the Legislature connected with the subject. . . . —*Richardson, Messages and Documents of the Presidents. Vol. I, p.*

Madison to Pinckney, at Madrid, Jan. 10, 1803.

. . . There is, in fact, but one sentiment throughout the Union with respect to the duty of maintaining our rights of navigation and boundary. The only existing difference relates to the degree of patience to be exercised during the appeal to friendly modes of redress. In this state of things it is to be presumed that the Spanish government will accelerate, by every possible means, its intervention for that purpose, and the President charges you to urge the necessity of so doing with as much amicable decision as you can employ.—*Gayarre, p. 495.*

Livingston writes to Napoleon urging reasons for France to part with at least a portion of Louisiana, Feb. 27, 1803:

. . . "That France," said he, "will never derive any advantage from the colonization of New Orleans and the Floridas, is fairly to be presumed, from their having been possessed for more than a century past, by three different nations. While the other colonies of these nations were increasing rapidly, these have always remained weak and languid, and an expensive burden to the possessors. Even at this moment, with all the advantages New Orleans has derived from foreign capital, and an accession of inhabitants from the United States, which has brought its free population to about seven thousand souls, the whole of the inhabitants east of the Mississippi does not more than double that number; and those, too, are for the most part poor and miserable; and there are physical reasons that must forever render them inadequate to their own support, in the hands of any European nation. These provinces are, however, important to the United States because they contain the mouths of some of their rivers, which must make them the source of continual disputes. The interest that the United States attach, Citizen First Consul, to your friendship, and the alliance of France, is the principal cause of their anxiety to procure your consent to their accession of that country, and to the sacrifices that they are willing to make to attain it. They consider it as the only possible ground of collision between nations whom so many other interests unite. I

cannot, then, Citizen First Consul, but express my doubt of any advantage to be derived to France from the retaining of that country in its whole extent, and I think I could show that her true interest would lead her to make such cessions out of them to the United States as would at once afford supplies to her islands, without draining the money of France, and rivet the friendship of the United States, by removing all ground of jealousy relative to a country of little value in itself, and which will be perpetually exposed to the attacks of her natural enemy, as well from Canada as by sea . . . —Cited in *Gayarre*, pp. 496-97.

Instructions to Livingston and Monroe,
March 2, 1803:

“The object in view,” said he, “is to procure, by just and satisfactory arrangements, a cession to the United States of New Orleans and of West and East Florida, or as much thereof as the actual proprietor can be prevailed on to part with. . . . —*Gayarre*, p. 497-98.

Livingston again writes to Napoleon, March 16, 1803:

Sir, I will venture to say, that, were a fleet to shut up the mouths of the Chesapeake, Delaware, and Hudson, it would create less sensation in the United States than the denial of the right of depot at New Orleans has done, etc. I can never bring myself to believe, that the First Consul will, by deferring for a moment, the recognition of a right that admits of no discussion, break all those ties which bind the United States to France, obliterate the sense of past obligations, change every political relation that has been, and still is, the earnest wish of the United States to preserve, and force them to connect their interests with those of a rival power; and this, too, for an object of no real moment in itself, — Louisiana is, and ever must be, from physical causes, a miserable country in the hands of an European power. — *Gayarre*, p. 500.

Livingston writes to Madison, April 11, 1803, concerning the results of his letters to Napoleon:

‘These reasons, with the possibility of war, have had, I trust, the desired effect. M. Talleyrand asked me this day, when pressing the subject, whether we wished to have the whole of Louisiana. I told him, no, that our wishes extended only to New Orleans and the Floridas; that the policy of France should dictate (as I had shown in an official note) to give us the country above the river Arkansas, in order to place a barrier between them and Canada. He said that, if they gave New Orleans, the rest would be of little value, and that he would wish to know “what we would give for the whole.” I told him it was a subject I had not thought of, but that I supposed we should not object to twenty millions, provided our citizens were paid. . . . *Gayarre, p. 502.*

Napoleon discusses with two of his counselors the whole subject of the disposal of Louisiana:—

. . . I know the full value of Louisiana, and I have been desirous of repairing the fault of the French negotiator who abandoned it in 1763. A few lines of a treaty have restored it to me, and I have scarcely recovered it, when I must expect to lose it. But if it escapes from me, it shall one day cost dearer to those who oblige me to strip myself of it, than to those to whom I wish to deliver it. The English have successively taken from France, Canada, Cape Breton, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and the richest portion of Asia. They are engaged in exciting troubles in St. Domingo. They shall not have the Mississippi which they covet. Louisiana is nothing in comparison with their conquests in all parts of the globe, and yet the jealousy they feel at the restoration of this colony to the sovereignty of France, acquaints me with their wish to take possession of it, and it is thus they will begin the war. They have twenty ships of war in the Gulf of Mexico; they sail over those seas as sovereigns, whilst our affairs at St. Domingo have been growing worse every day, since the death of Leclerc. The conquest of Louisiana would be easy, if they only took the trouble to make a descent there. I have not a moment to lose in putting it out of their reach. I know not whether they are not already

there. It is their usual course, and if I had been in their place, I would not have waited. I wish, if there is still time, to take away from them any idea that they may have of ever possessing that colony. I think of ceding it to the United States. I can scarcely say that I cede it to them, for it is not yet in our possession. If, however, I leave the least time to our enemies, I shall transmit only an empty title to those republicans whose friendship I seek. They only ask of me one town in Louisiana; but I already consider the colony as lost, and it appears to me that in the hands of this growing power, it will be more useful to the policy and even to the commerce of France, than if I should attempt to keep it.—*Gayarre*, p. 512-13.

One of these counsellors, Barbé-Marbois responded to Napoleon as follows:

‘We should not hesitate’ said the last Minister (Barbé Marbois) ‘to make a sacrifice of that which is about slipping away from us. War with England is inevitable. . . .

. . . Louisiana is open to the English from the north by the great lakes, and if, to the south, they show themselves at the mouth of the Mississippi, New Orleans will instantly fall into their hands. Of what consequence is it to the inhabitants whom they are subject to, if their country is not to cease to be a colony? This conquest would be still easier to the Americans; they can reach the Mississippi by several navigable rivers, and to be master of the country it will be sufficient for them to enter it. The population and resources of these two neighbors every day increase, and the other has maritime means sufficient to take possession of everything that can advance her commerce. . . . —*Gayarre*, pp. 513, 514.

Decrés takes the opposite view:—

The other Minister (Decrés) was of a totally opposite opinion: “We are still at peace with England,” said he, “the colony has just been ceded to us, it depends on the First Consul to preserve it. It would not be wise in him to abandon, for fear of a doubtful danger, the

most important establishment that we can form out of France and despoil ourselves of it for no other reason than the possibility of a war, it would be as well, if not better, that it should be taken from us by force of arms.

There can be no marine without colonies; no colonies without a powerful marine. The political system of Europe is only preserved by a skilfully combined resistance of many against one. This is as necessary with respect to the sea as to the land, if it is not intended to submit to the tyranny of a universal sovereignty over commerce and the loss of the immense advantages of a free navigation. To this you will not submit; you will not acknowledge by your resignation that England is the sovereign mistress of the seas, that she is there invulnerable, and that no one can possess colonies except at her good pleasure. It does not become you to fear the Kings of England. . . .

. . . Louisiana can indemnify us for all our losses. There does not exist on the globe a single port, a single city susceptible of becoming as important as New Orleans, and the neighborhood of the American States already makes it one of the most commercial in the world. The Mississippi does not reach there till it has received twenty other rivers, most of which surpass in size the finest rivers of Europe. . . .

Finally, France after her long troubles, requires such a colony for her internal pacification; it will be for our country what, a century ago, were for England the settlements which the emigrants from the three kingdoms have raised to so high a degree of prosperity; it will be the asylum of our religious and political dissenters; it will cure a part of the maladies which the revolution has caused, and be the supreme conciliator of all the parties into which we are divided. You will there find the remedies for which you search with so much solicitude.

Gayarre, pp. 518, 519, 520-21

Napoleon ends the discussion with this outbreak:

Irresolution and deliberation are no longer in season. I renounce Louisiana. It is not only New Orleans that

I will cede, it is the whole colony without any reservation. I know the price of what I shall abandon, and have sufficiently proved the importance that I attach to this province, since my first diplomatic act with Spain had for its object its recovery. I renounce it with the greatest regret. To attempt obstinately to retain it, would be folly. I direct you to negotiate this affair with the envoys of the United States. Do not even await the arrival of Mr. Monroe, have an interview this very day with Mr. Livingston. But I require a great deal of money for this war, and I would not like to con-^{se}quence it with new contributions. . . . I will be moderate, in consideration of the necessity in which I am, of making a sale. But keep this to yourself. I want fifty millions, and for less than that sum I will not treat; I would rather make a desperate attempt to keep these fine countries. To-morrow, you shall have full power. —Cited in Gayarre, pp. 511-22. Extracts are from Barbe-Marbois' *"History of Louisiana."*

After signing the treaty Mr. Livingston, expressing the satisfaction which they felt, said:

We have lived long, but this is the noblest work of our whole lives. The treaty which we have just signed has not been obtained by art nor dictated by force; equally advantageous to the two contracting parties, it will change vast solitudes into flourishing districts. From this day the United States take their place among the powers of the first rank; the English lose all exclusive influence in the affairs of America.—Gayarre, p. 525.

Livingston writes to Madison in regard to the extent of country secured in the Louisiana purchase in part as follows:

I called this morning upon M. Marbois for a further explanation on this subject, and to remind him of his having told me that Mobile made a part of the cession. He told me that he had no precise idea on the subject, but that he knew it to be an historical fact, and on that only he had formed his opinion. I asked him what orders had been given to the prefect who was to take posses-

s on, or what orders had been given by Spain, as to the boundary, in ceding it?" He assured me that he did not know, but that he would make the inquiry and let me know. At four o'clock I called for Mr. Monroe to take him to the Minister of Foreign affairs (Talleyrand), but he was prevented from accompanying me. I asked the minister (Talleyrand) what were the east bounds of the territory ceded to us? He said he did not know; we must take it as they had received it. I asked him how Spain meant to give them possession? He said, according to the words of the treaty. But what did you mean to take? I do not know. Then you mean that we shall construe it in our own way? I can give you no direction; you have made a noble bargain for yourselves, and I suppose you will make the most of it. *Gayarre, pp. 530-31.*

Jefferson writes to Monroe, concerning the special mission to France, Jan. 13, 1803, in these words:

Dear Sir,—I dropped you a line on the 10th informing you of a nomination I had made of you to the Senate, and yesterday I enclosed you their approbation, not then having time to write. The agitation of the public mind on occasion of the late suspension of our right of deposit at N Orleans is extreme. In the western country it is natural and grounded on honest motives. In the seaports it proceeds from a desire for war which increases the mercantile lottery; in the federalists generally, and especially those of Congress, the object is to force us into war if possible, in order to derange our finances, or if this cannot be done, to attach the western country to them, as their best friends, and thus get again into power. Remonstrances, memorials, etc., are now circulating through the whole of the western country and signing by the body of the people. The measures we have been pursuing being invisible, do not satisfy their minds. Something sensible, therefore, was become necessary; and indeed as our object of purchasing N Orleans and the Floridas is a measure liable to assume so many shapes, that no instructions could be squared to fit them, it was essential then to send a min-

ister extraordinary to be joined with the ordinary one, with discretionary powers, first, however, well impressed with all our views and therefore qualified to meet and modify to these every form of proposition which could come from the other party. . . .

. . . All eyes, all hopes, are now fixed on you; and were you to decline, the chagrin would be universal, and would shake under your feet the high ground on which you stand with the public. Indeed, I know nothing which would produce such a shock, for on the event of this mission depends the future destinies of this republic. If we cannot by a purchase of this country insure to ourselves a course of perpetual peace and friendship with all nations, then as war cannot be distant, it behooves us immediately to be preparing for that course, without, however, hastening it, and it may be necessary (on your failure on the continent) to cross the channel.

We shall get entangled in European politics, and figuring more, be much less happy and prosperous. This can only be prevented by a successful issue to your present mission. . . . —*Jefferson's Works* (Ford Ed.), Vol. VIII, pp. 190-91.

In a letter to Dupont de Nemours, Feb. 1, 1803, Jefferson discusses the questions at issue, and the plans of the day, as follows:

. . . The suspension of the right of deposit at New Orleans, ceded to us by our treaty with Spain, threw our whole country into such a ferment as imminently threatened its peace. This, however, was believed to be the act of the Intendant, unauthorized by his government. But it showed the necessity of making effectual arrangements to secure the peace of the two countries against the indiscreet acts of subordinate agents.

. . . : For our circumstances are so imperious as to admit of no delay as to our course; and the use of the Mississippi so indispensable, that we cannot hesitate one moment to hazard our existence for its maintenance. If we fail in this effort to put it beyond the reach of accident, we see the destinies we have to run, and prepare

at once for them. Not but that we shall still endeavor to go in peace and friendship with our neighbors as long as we can, if our rights of deposit and navigation are respected; but as we foresee the caprices of the local officers, and the abuse of those rights by our boatmen and navigators, which neither government can prevent, will keep up a state of irritation which cannot long be kept inactive, we should be criminally improvident not to take at once eventual measures for strengthening ourselves for the contest. . . .

. . . . Whatever power, other than ourselves, holds the country east of the Mississippi becomes our natural enemy. Will such a possession do France as much good, as such an enemy may do her harm? And how long would it be hers, were such an enemy situated at its door, added to G. Britain? I confess, it appears to me as essential for France to keep at peace with us, as it is to us to keep at peace with her; and that, if this cannot be secured without some compromise as to the territory in question, it will be useful for both of us to make some sacrifices to effect the compromise.—*Jefferson's Works*, Vol. VIII., pp. 204-205-6, 207

Should the United States seize New Orleans? Jefferson discusses the question in a letter to John Bacon, April 30, 1803:

. . . . Although I am not sanguine in obtaining a cession of New Orleans for money, yet I am confident in the policy of putting off the day of contention for it, till we are stronger in ourselves, and stronger in allies, but especially till we have planted such a population on the Mississippi as will be able to do their own business, without the necessity of marching men from the shores of the Atlantic 1500 or 2000 miles thither, to perish by fatigue and change of climate —*Ibid*, p. 229.

Jefferson proposes a draft of an amendment to the constitution, legalizing the purchase of Louisiana:—

Louisiana, as ceded by France to the U. S. is made a part of the U. S. Its white inhabitants shall be citizens,

and stand, as to their rights and obligations, on the same footing with other citizens of the U S in analogous situations. Save only that as to the portion thereof lying North of an East and West line drawn through the mouth of Arkansas river, no new State shall be established, nor any grants of land made, other than to Indians in exchange for equivalent portions of land occupied by them, until authorized by further subsequent amendment to the Constitution that shall be made for these purposes. Florida also, whenever it may be rightfully obtained, shall become a part of the U S.; Its white inhabitants shall thereupon be Citizens and shall stand, as to their rights and obligations, on the same footing with other citizens of the U. S in analogous situations.

He discusses the constitutional question with Gallatin, January, 1803:—

. . . You are right, in my opinion, as to Mr L's proposition; there is no constitutional difficulty as to the acquisition of territory, and whether, when acquired, it may be taken into the Union by the Constitution as it now stands, will become a question of expediency. I think it will be safer not to permit the enlargement of the Union but by amendment of the Constitution.

With Thomas Payne:—

"Dear Sir, -On the 10th inst. I wrote you on the subject of Louisiana and mentioned the question of a supplement to the constitution on that account. A letter received yesterday renders it prudent to say nothing on that subject, but to do *sub-silentio* what shall be found necessary. That part of my letter therefore be so good as to consider confidential. Accept my friendly salutations and assurances of great esteem and respect." - *Jefferson's Works*, VIII pp. 241-45.

Jefferson discusses the question of the boundary of Louisiana in a letter to John Dickinson, Aug. 9, 1803. These extracts give the main thought:—

. . . The acquisition of New Orleans would of itself have been a great thing, as it would have ensured to our western brethren the means of exporting their produce; but that of Louisiana is inappreciable, because giving us the sole dominion of the Mississippi, it excludes those bickerings with foreign powers, which we know of a certainty would have put us at war with France immediately; and it secures to us the course of a peaceable nation.

The unquestioned bounds of Louisiana are the Iberville and the Mississippi on the east, the Mexicana, or the highlands east of it, on the west; then from the head of the Mexicana gaining the highlands which include the waters of the Mississippi and following those highlands round the head-springs of the western waters of the Mississippi to its source where we join the English or perhaps to the Lake of the Woods. . . . I should be averse to exchanging any part of this for the Floridas, because it would let Spain into the Mississippi on the principle of natural rights, [a view which] we have always urged and are now urging to [upon] her, that a nation inhabiting the upper part of a stream has a right of innocent passage down that stream to the Ocean; and because the Floridas will fall to us peaceably the first war Spain is engaged in. . . .

. . . Our confederation is certainly confined to the limits established by the revolution. The general government has no powers but such as the constitution has given it; and it has not given it a power of holding foreign territory, and still less of incorporating it into the Union. An amendment of the Constitution seems necessary for this. In the meantime we must ratify and pay our money, as we have treated, for a thing beyond the Constitution, and rely on the nation to sanction an act done for its great good, without its previous authority.
—*Jefferson's Works*, VIII, pp. 261-62.

In his message of Oct. 17, 1803, to Congress, Jefferson discusses the whole question in this language:

Previous, however, to this period, we had not been unaware of the danger to which our peace would be

perpetually exposed while so important a key to the commerce of the western country remained under foreign power. Difficulties, too, were presenting themselves as to the navigation of other streams, which, arising within our territories, pass through those adjacent. Propositions had, therefore, been authorized for obtaining, on fair conditions, the sovereignty of New Orleans, and of other possessions in that quarter interesting to our quiet, to such extent as was deemed practicable; and the provisional appropriation of two millions of dollars, to be applied and accounted for by the president of the United States, intended as part of the price, was considered as conveying the sanction of Congress to the acquisition proposed. The enlightened government of France saw, with just discernment, the importance to both nations of such liberal arrangements as might best and permanently promote the peace, friendship, and interests of both; and the property and sovereignty of all Louisiana, which had been restored to them, have on certain conditions been transferred to the United States by instruments bearing date the 30th of April last. When these shall have received the constitutional sanction of the senate, they will without delay be communicated to the representatives also, for the exercise of their functions, as to those conditions which are within the powers vested by the Constitution in Congress. While the property and sovereignty of the Mississippi and its waters secure an independent outlet for the produce of the western States, and an uncontrolled navigation through their whole course, free from collision with other powers and the dangers to our peace from that source, the fertility of the country, its climate and extent, promise in due season important aids to our treasury, an ample provision for our posterity, and a wide-spread field for the blessings of freedom and equal laws -- *Jefferson's Works, VIII, pp 268-69*

The following extracts from the debates in Congress over the Louisiana question show the spirit of the times, and the arguments used.

Ross (Federalist of Penn.) said:

It was certainly unnecessary to waste the time of that body in stating that we had a solemn explicit treaty with Spain, that this treaty had been wantonly and unprovokedly violated. . . .

To the free navigation of that river we had an undoubted right from nature, and from the position of our Western country. This right, and the right of deposit in the Island of New Orleans, had been solemnly acknowledged and fixed by treaty in 1795. . . .

Why not seize then what is so essential to us as a nation? Why not expel the wrongdoers? wrongdoers by their own confession, to whom by a seizure we are doing no injury. Paper contracts, or treaties, have proved too feeble. Plant yourselves on the river, fortify the banks, invite those who have an interest at stake to defend it, do justice to yourselves when your adversaries deny it; and leave the result to Him who controls the fate of nations.

Why submit to a tardy, uncertain negotiation, as the only means of regaining what you have lost, a negotiation with those who have wronged you; with those who declare they have no right, at the moment they deprive you of yours? When in possession, you will negotiate with more advantage. You will then be in the condition to keep others out. You will be in the actual exercise of jurisdiction over your claims; your people will have the benefit of a lawful commerce. When your determination is known, you will make an easy and an honorable accommodation with any other claimant. . . .

Suppose that this course be not now pursued. Let me warn gentlemen how they trifle with the feelings, the hopes and the fears of such a body of men as inhabit the western waters. Let every honorable man put the question to himself: how would half a million round him be affected by such a calamity, and no prompt measures taken by the Government to redress it? These men have arms in their hands; the same arms with which they proved victorious over their savage neighbors. They have a daring spirit, they have ample means of subsistence, and they have men disposed to lead them on to revenge their wrongs. Are you certain that they will wait the end of negotiation?

When they hear that nothing has been done for their immediate relief, they will probably take their resolution and act. Indeed, from all we have heard, there is great reason to believe that they will, or that they may have already taken that resolution.

He then read his resolutions, which are as follows:

Resolved, That the United States have an indisputable right to the free navigation of the river Mississippi, and to a convenient place of deposit for their produce and merchandise in the island of New Orleans.

That the late infraction of such their unquestionable right, is an aggression hostile to their honor and interest.

That it does not consist with the dignity or safety of this Union to hold a right so important by a tenure so uncertain.

That it materially concerns such of the American citizens as dwell on the Western waters, and is essential to the Union, strength and prosperity of these States, that they obtain complete security for the full and peaceable enjoyment of such their absolute right.

That the President be authorized to take immediate possession of such place or places, in the said island, or the adjacent territories, as he may deem fit and convenient for the purposes aforesaid, and to adopt such other measures for obtaining that complete security as to him in his wisdom shall seem meet.

That he may be authorized to call into actual service any number of the militia of the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, or of the Mississippi territory, which he may think proper, not exceeding fifty thousand, and to employ them, together with the military and naval forces of the Union, for effecting the objects above mentioned.

That the sum of five millions of dollars be appropriated to the carrying into effect of the foregoing resolutions, and that the whole or any part of that sum be paid or applied, on warrants drawn in pursuance of such directions as the President may, from time to time, think proper to give to the Secretary of the Treasury."

—*Benton, Abridgement of Debates, Vol. II., pp 668-70.*

Mr. Clinton [Republican of New York] discusses the question;

"Sublime as these speculations may appear to the eyes of some, and high sounding as they may strike the ears of many, they do not affect me with any force. In the first place, I do not perceive how they bear upon the question before me, it merely refers to the seizure of New Orleans, not to the maintenance of the balance of power. Again: of all characters, I think that of a conquering nation least becomes the American people. What, sir? shall America go forth, like another Don Quixote, to relieve distressed nations, and to rescue from the fangs of tyranny the powerful States of Britain, Spain, Austria, Italy, the Netherlands? Shall she, like another Phaeton, madly ascend the chariot of Empire, and spread desolation and horror over the world? Shall she attempt to restrain the career of a nation which my honorable colleague represents to have been irresistible, and which he declares has appalled the British lion and the imperial eagle of the house of Austria? Shall she wantonly court destruction, and violate all the maxims of policy which ought to govern an infant and free Republic? Let us, Sir, never carry our arms into the territories of other nations, unless we are compelled to take them up in self-defense. A pacific character is of all others most important for us to establish and maintain. . . .

. . . I look, Sir, upon all the dangers we have heard about the French possessions of Louisiana, as visionary and idle. Twenty years must roll over our heads before France can establish in that country a population of two hundred thousand souls. What in the meantime will become of your Southern and Western States? Are they not advancing to greatness with a giant's stride? The Western waters will then contain on their borders millions of free and hardy republicans, able to crush every daring invader of their rights. A formidable navy will spring from the bosom of the Atlantic States, ready to meet the maritime forces of any nation. With such means, what will we have to fear from the acts or from the arms of any power, however formidable. —Cited in Gayarre, pp. 490-91.

A very intense debate arose over the question whether provision should be made to carry out the treaty for the purchase of Louisiana: A few extracts will show the line of argument:

MR. PICKERING said, if he entertained the opinion just now expressed by the gentleman from Delaware, (Mr. Wells, of the binding force of all treaties made by the President and Senate, he should think it to be his duty to vote for the bill now under consideration. "The constitution, and the laws of the United States made in pursuance thereof, and all treaties made, or which shall be made under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land."—But a treaty to be thus obligatory, must not contravene the constitution, nor contain any stipulations which transcend the powers therein given to the President and Senate. The treaty between the United States and the French Republic, professing to cede Louisiana to the United States, appeared to him to contain such an exceptional stipulation—a stipulation which cannot be executed by any authority now existing. It is declared in the third article, that "the inhabitants of the ceded territory shall be incorporated into the Union of the United States." But neither the President and Senate, nor the President and Congress, are competent to such an act of incorporation. He believed that our Administration admitted that this incorporation could not be effected without an amendment to the constitution; and he conceived that this necessary amendment could not be made in the ordinary mode by the concurrence of two-thirds of both Houses of Congress, and the ratification by the Legislature of three-fourths of the several States. He believed the assent of each individual State to be necessary for the admission of a foreign country as an associate in the Union; in like manner as in a commercial house, the consent of each member would be necessary to admit a new partner into the company; and whether the assent of every State to such an indispensable amendment were attainable, was uncertain. But the articles of the treaty were necessarily related to each other, the stipulation in one article being the con

sideration for another. If, therefore, in respect to the Louisiana Treaty, the United States fail to execute, and within a reasonable time, the engagement in the third article, (to incorporate that territory into the Union,) the French Government will have a right to declare the whole treaty void. We must then abandon the country, or go to war to maintain our possession. But it was to prevent war that the pacific measures of the last winter were adopted. They were to "lay the foundation for future peace."

Mr. P. had never doubted the right of the United States to acquire new territory, either by purchase or by conquest, and to govern the territory so acquired as a dependent province, and in this way might Louisiana have become a territory of the United States, and have received a form of government infinitely preferable to that to which its inhabitants are now subject.

MR. TAYLOR. There have been, Mr. President, two objections made against the treaty, one that the United States cannot constitutionally acquire territory; the other that the treaty stipulates for the admission of a new State into the Union; a stipulation which the treaty-making power is unable to comply with. To these objections I shall endeavor to give answers not heretofore urged.

Before a confederation, each State in the Union possessed a right, as attached to sovereignty, of acquiring territory, by war, purchase, or treaty. This right must be either still possessed, or forbidden both to each State and to the General Government, or transferred to the General Government. It is not possessed by the States separately, because war and compacts with foreign powers and with each other are prohibited to a separate State; and no other means of acquiring territory exist. By depriving every State of the means of exercising the right of acquiring territory, the constitution has deprived each separate State of the right itself. Neither the means nor the right of acquiring territory are forbidden to the United States; on the contrary, in the fourth article of the constitution. Congress is empowered "to dispose of and regulate the territory belonging to the United States." This recognizes the right of the United States to hold territory. . . .

Having proved, Sir, that the United States may constitutionally acquire, hold, dispose of, and regulate territory, the other objection to be considered is, whether the third article of the treaty does stipulate that Louisiana shall be erected into a State? It is conceded that the treaty-making power cannot, by treaty, erect a new State, however they may stipulate for it. . . .

The third article declares that "the inhabitants of the ceded territory shall be incorporated in the Union of the United States." And these words are said to require the territory to be erected into a State. This they do not express, and the words are literally satisfied by incorporating them into the Union as a Territory, and not as a State. The constitution recognizes and the practice warrants an incorporation of a Territory and its inhabitants into the Union, without admitting either as a State

MR. NICHOLAS.— . . . If the third article of the treaty is an engagement to incorporate the territory of Louisiana into the Union of the United States and to make it a State, it cannot be considered as an unconstitutional exercise of the treaty-making power; for it will not be asserted by any rational man that the territory is incorporated as a State by the treaty itself, when it is expressly declared that "the inhabitants shall be incorporated in the Union of the United States, and admitted as soon as possible, according to the principles of the Federal Constitution." Evidently referring the question of incorporation, in whatever character it was to take place, to the competent authority; and leaving to that authority to do it, at such time, and in such manner, as they may think proper.

MR. THATCHER.— . . . The confederation under which we now live is a partnership of States, and it is not competent to it to admit a new partner but with the consent of all the partners. If such power exist, it does not reside in the President and Senate. The Constitution says new states may be admitted by Congress. If this article of the Constitution authorizes the exercise of the power under the treaty, it must reside with the Legislature, and not with the President and Senate . . .

MR. R. GRISWOLD. . . . , As to the idea of some gentlemen, that this territory, not being a part of the United States, but a colony, and that therefore we may do as we please with it, it is not correct. If we acquire a colony by conquest or purchase—and I believe we may do both—it is not consistent with the constitution to delegate to the President, even over a colony thus acquired, all power, legislative, executive, and judicial; for this would make him the despot of the colony. . . .

—Benton, *Abridgement of Debates*, Vol. III., pp. 10, 14, 15, 20, 67, 75.

QUESTIONS.

1. Who made the treaty of cession of Louisiana? 2. The stated object? 3. Who was meant by His Catholic Majesty? 4. What territory did we acquire? 5. Can you tell from the treaty itself the boundaries? 6. What did Talleyrand say to Livingston in regard to the boundaries? 7. What did Jefferson claim? 8. Draw a map to show what Louisiana included. 9. What boundary limits do you find it hard to determine? 10. See if you can find out from other histories how it was finally determined. 11. What rights were the people living in Louisiana to have? 12. What was to be done with the territory? 13. Have we any similar question at present to settle?

1. How did the United States feel toward the nation that held the mouth of the Mississippi River? 2. What position did the Western people take? 3. How did the Federalists attempt to use this Western feeling? 4. Why did Jefferson prefer peace to war? 5. What did Jefferson first attempt to purchase? 6. When did the movement to buy territory first begin? 7. Why did the United States object more strenuously to France's holding Louisiana than to Spain's? 8. What arguments did Livingston use with Napoleon? 9. What seemingly led Napoleon to part with Louisiana? 10. Did all French statesmen agree in the policy? 11. Who first proposed that the United States take *all* of Louisiana?

1. Summarize the arguments which led the United States to wish to buy territory, also the arguments that led France to sell. 2. Can you determine why Jefferson was so anxious to have Monroe go to France as minister? 3. What act of Spain made the crisis at New Orleans very acute? 4. Was it necessary to secure the mouth of the Mississippi to save the Union? 5. Which party was the peace party—Federal or Republican? 6. Can you find out why?

1. State the constitutional position of Jefferson, of Pickering, of Taylor. 2. Can you determine their politics from the principle advocated? 3. How did Jefferson propose to get around the constitutional difficulty? 4. Do these arguments affect any question to-day? 5. See how many constitutional questions you can find? 6. What was the main issue? 7. Write a narrative history of the acquisition of Louisiana. 8. Find out and discuss, as far as you can, the effects of the purchase. Make a map showing what states have been carved out of the Louisiana territory.



THE PURCHASE OF FLORIDA

The Florida treaty, 1819. Part of West Florida occupied, 1811; rest of West Florida taken possession of, 1812. Area, 59,269 square miles. Total cost, \$5,489,768. Ownership of West Florida in dispute, 1803-1819. Provision made for its incorporation into the Union. The purchase the work of John Quincy Adams.

CHAPTER V

THE PURCHASE OF FLORIDA

The purchase of Louisiana made the acquisition of Florida almost a necessity. The former, however, so overshadowed the latter in importance that due attention has not been given by our historians to the result of John Quincy Adams' diplomacy. He considered this treaty the most important act of his life up to that time, and as one of the most momentous events in American history. I believe it is not generally known, certainly not generally appreciated, that for many years the attempt to secure the Floridas dominated the course of American political action. For several years, after 1803, Jefferson bent his foreign policy with reference to securing, at least, West Florida. Madison modified his course, more or less, as it would be affected by, or would affect, this question. The Seminole war, the foreign complications in connection with Ambrister and Arbuthnot, Jackson's difficulty in regard to the invasion of Florida, all were factors in this problem. In fact it may be said that, from 1803 to 1821, there was scarcely a moment in which the peace and welfare of the United States was not more or less endangered by the existence of Florida as a Spanish possession.

Then too, there was the question of the boundary of Louisiana, which involved the other issue whether West Florida was a part of the Louisiana purchase or not. It will be noticed also that by this treaty the south-western boundary was determined and the southern boundary of Oregon fixed. To be sure Texas was given up, and its reannexation became later an issue which we will study in the next chapter.

I hope that the material which I have brought together in this study may help to an understanding of a generally little known topic in the history of the "expansion" of the United States.

The following extracts from the treaty between the United States and Spain whereby Florida was acquired will lay the foundation for our study:—

Treaty of amity, settlement, and limits between the United States of America and his Catholic Majesty Concluded February 22, 1819, ratification exchanged February 22, 1821, proclaimed February 22 1821 Also ratification of the same by the King of Spain October 24, 1820

The United States of America and his Catholic Majesty, desiring to consolidate on a permanent basis, the friendship and good correspondence which happily prevails between the two parties, have determined to settle and terminate all their differences and pretensions, by a treaty, which shall designate with precision, the limits of their respective bordering territories in North America

With this intention the President of the United States has furnished with their full powers John Quincy Adams, Secretary of State of the Said United States, and his Catholic majesty has appointed the Most Excel-

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The United States of America and his Catholic Majesty, desiring to consolidate on a permanent basis, the friendship and good correspondence which happily prevails between the two parties, have determined to settle and terminate all their differences and pretensions, by a treaty, which shall designate with precision, the limits of their respective bordering territories in North America.

With this intention the President of the United States has furnished with their full powers John Quincy Adams, Secretary of State of the Said United States, and his Catholic majesty has appointed the Most Excel-

CHAPTER V

THE PURCHASE OF FLORIDA

The purchase of Louisiana made the acquisition of Florida almost a necessity. The former, however, so overshadowed the latter in importance that due attention has not been given by our historians to the result of John Quincy Adams' diplomacy. He considered this treaty the most important act of his life up to that time, and as one of the most momentous events in American history. I believe it is not generally known, certainly not generally appreciated, that for many years the attempt to secure the Floridas dominated the course of American political action. For several years, after 1803, Jefferson bent his foreign policy with reference to securing, at least, West Florida. Madison modified his course, more or less, as it would be affected by, or would affect, this question. The Seminole war, the foreign complications in connection with Ambrister and Arbuthnot, Jackson's difficulty in regard to the invasion of Florida, all were factors in this problem. In fact it may be said that, from 1803 to 1821, there was scarcely a moment in which the peace and welfare of the United States was not more or less endangered by the existence of Florida as a Spanish possession.

Then too, there was the question of the boundary of Louisiana, which involved the other issue whether West Florida was a part of the Louisiana purchase or not. It will be noticed also that by this treaty the south-western boundary was determined and the southern boundary of Oregon fixed. To be sure Texas was given up, and its reannexation became later an issue which we will study in the next chapter.

I hope that the material which I have brought together in this study may help to an understanding of a generally little known topic in the history of the "expansion" of the United States.

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lent Lord Don Luis DeOnis, Gonzales, Lopez y Vara, Lord of the town of Rayaces, Perpetual Regidor of the Corporation of the city of Salamanca, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal American Order of Isabella the Catholic, decorated with the Lys of La Vendee, Knight Pensioner of the Royal and Distinguished Spanish order of Charles the Third, Member of the Supreme Assembly of the said Royal Order, of the Council of his Catholic Majesty, his secretary, with exercise of decrees, and his envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary near the United States of America. [Who have concluded the treaty]

ART II His Catholic Majesty cedes to the United States, in full property and sovereignty, all the territories which belong to him, situated to the eastward of the Mississippi, known by the name of East and West Florida. The adjacent islands dependent on said provinces, all public lots and squares, vacant lands, public edifices, fortifications, barracks and other buildings, which are not private property, archives and documents, which relate directly to the property and sovereignty of said provinces, are included in this article.

ART III The boundary line between the two countries, west of the Mississippi, shall begin on the Gulf of Mexico, at the mouth of the River Sabine, in the sea, continuing north, along the western bank of that river, to the 32nd degree of latitude, thence, by a line due north, to the degree of latitude where it strikes the Rio Roxo of Natchitoches, or Red River then following the course of the Rio Roxo westward, to the degree of longitude 100 west from London and 23 from Washington, then, crossing the said Red River, and running thence, by a line due north to the river Arkansas, thence, following the course of the southern bank of the Arkansas, to its source, in latitude 42 north, and thence, by that parallel of latitude, to the South Sea. The whole as being laid down in Melish's map of the United States, published at Philadelphia, improved to the first of January, 1818. But if the source of the Arkansas River shall be found to fall north or south of latitude 42 then the line shall run from the said source

due south or north, as the case may be, till it meets the said parallel of latitude 42, and thence, along the said parallel, to the South Sea. All the islands in the Sabine, and the said Red and Arkansas rivers, throughout the course thus described, to belong to the United States; but the use of the waters, and the navigation of the Sabine to the sea, and of the said rivers Roxo and Arkansas, throughout the extent of the said boundary, on their respective banks, shall be common to the respective inhabitants of both nations.

The two high contracting parties agree to cede and renounce all their rights, claims, and pretentions, to the territories described by the said line, that is to say: The United States hereby cede to his Catholic majesty, and renounce forever, all their rights, claims and pretensions, to the territories lying west and south of the above described line; and, in like manner, his Catholic Majesty cedes to the said United States all his rights, claims, and pretentions to any territories east and north of the said line, and for himself, his heirs and successors, renounces all claim to the said territories forever.

ART. VI. The inhabitants of the territories which his Catholic Majesty cedes to the United States, by this treaty, shall be incorporated in the Union of the United States as soon as may be consistent with the principles of the Federal Constitution, and admitted to the enjoyment of all the privileges, rights and immunities of the citizens of the United States

ART. XI. The United States, exonerating Spain from all demands in future, on account of the claims of their citizens to which the renunciations herein contained extend, and considering them entirely cancelled, undertake to make satisfaction for the same, to an amount not exceeding five millions of dollars

This treaty was ratified by the two nations in the following manner and terms:

WHEREAS, a treaty of amity, settlement and limits between the United States of America, and his Catholic Majesty, was concluded and signed between their plenipotentiaries in this city, on the twenty-second day of

February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, which treaty is as follows

(Here follows the treaty in full)

And, whereas, his said Catholic Majesty did, on the twenty-fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty, ratify and confirm the said treaty, which ratification is in the words and tenor following.

(Here follows the ratification of the King of Spain in full)

And, whereas, the United States did on the nineteenth day of the present month, advise and consent to the ratification on the part of these United States, of the said treaty, in the following words.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, Feb 19, 1821.

"Resolved, two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein, That the Senate having examined the treaty of amity, settlement, and limits between the United States of America and his Catholic Majesty, made and concluded on the twenty second of February, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, and seen and considered the ratification thereof made by his said Catholic majesty on the twenty-fourth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and twenty, do consent to and advise the President of the United State to ratify the same "

And, whereas, in pursuance of said advice and consent of the Senate of the United States, I have ratified and confirmed the said treaty, in the words following, viz

"Now, therefore, I, James Monroe, President of the United States of America, having seen and considered the treaty above recited, together with the ratification of his Catholic Majesty thereof, do, in pursuance of the aforesaid advice and consent of the Senate of the United States, by these presents, accept, ratify and confirm, the said treaty, and every clause and article thereof, as the same are herein before set forth

"In faith whereof I have caused the seal of the United States of America to be hereunto affixed

"Given under my hand, at the city of Washington, this twenty-second day of February, in the year of our

Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, and
of the Independence of the said States the forty-fifth
By the President. JAMES MONROE.

*Cited in Donaldson, Public Domain, pp. 111-112, 113,
115.*

The following extracts from John Quincy Adams's diary throw much light on the feelings and movements of these years as they pertain to our subject: -

. . . Before the Florida Treaty was signed, Clay's tactics were to push the Executive, if possible, into a quarrel with Spain. As he did not play his game very skilfully, his impetuosity contributed to promote the conclusion of the treaty. Without involving the Executive as he intended, it alarmed Spain and gave us argument to bring her to reasonable terms. When the treaty was signed, it was so generally considered as highly advantageous to the United States that it was considered very creditable to the Administration, and Clay, though he betrayed his ill will to it, yet dared not make any opposition against it. As soon as the question about the grants arose, Clay seized upon it as a means of defeating the treaty. Spain, by withholding the ratification beyond the stipulated period, has thrown away the bargain and the United States are no longer bound to abide by it. In the course of the discussion with Spain it became necessary to show that Onís's instructions authorized him to have conceded more than he did. Upon which Clay immediately argues that more was conceded than Onís asked. At the commencement of the session, the President proposed that a discretionary power should be given to the Executive to take possession of Florida and to indemnify the claimants upon Spain, as if the treaty had been ratified, from the Florida lands. The House manifested no disposition to comply with this proposal, and the Committee of Foreign Relations brought in a report requiring positively that Florida should be taken, and leaving the claims totally unprovided for. Clay's professed project was to set the treaty aside, to take the province of

Texas, and recognize the South Americans; his real object was merely to defeat the treaty and do nothing. It has long been obvious that Congress would do nothing, and the danger to the Executive is, that by that termination of doing nothing the appearance to the world will be of dissension between the Executive and the Legislature, the worst of all possible positions for negotiating with the Spaniard when he comes. In the mean time, the Missouri question and its compromise have sharpened the greediness of the Southern interest for more Southern Territories to make more slave States, and given the Northern and Eastern interest a distaste even for Florida, because that would become another slave State. The new disturbances in Spain also threaten a revolution of the Government there, and put an end to all question as to the issue of the revolution in South America. The only powerful interest, therefore, that Spain had for settling her differences with us is disappearing. There is no prospect of the ratification of the treaty, and there is at this moment scarcely any great interest in this country that desires the ratification. Forsyth in his dispatch says that probably the Spanish Government wishes that we may take possession of Florida for the sake of having stronger ground for insisting on the confirmation of the grants, and the proposal of the Committee of Foreign Relations falls into this view as completely as if it had been drawn up by the Duke of Alagon himself. (March 18, 1820).

* * * *

I wrote a few observations on the proposal I had made to the President last Saturday, to send a message to Congress recommending a postponement of the measures for occupying Florida for the next session. . . . (March 20)

* * * *

Crawford declared himself in favor of the measure more frankly and explicitly than I expected, though he saw, and with us all remarked, that it was subject to much misconception and misrepresentation. Wirt's opinion, as usual, was not opposed to that of the Presi-

Jent; the only objector, and quite to my surprise, was Calhoun. . . . (March 21).

* * * *

I observed to Mr. Lowndes that the report of the committee appeared to admit that if we should take possession of Florida without the ratification of the treaty, we should be bound to recognize the contested grants [of land made by Spain to Spanish citizens] as valid; in which case the claims of indemnity [of American citizens against Spain for losses of goods, ships, etc., in previous years] would remain totally unprovided for. He admitted that the report might bear that construction, but said it was not intended. The intention merely was to signify to Spain that if, by the validity of the grants, the fund from which the claims were to be indemnified should fail, we should then look westward of the Sabine for the necessary substitute. (March 23).

* * * *

I went to the President's, and took with me the papers furnished me by Polëtica [the Russian minister], copies of the extracts of letters to him on our Spanish affairs. The President then asked me whether it would not be better for him to strike out that paragraph of the message which mentioned the wishes expressed by the Russian and French Governments, that we should abstain from all forcible measures and wait to hear the expected Spanish minister. I told him that, after all the reflection I could give to the subject, my opinion was that it would be best to retain the paragraph. It would certainly excite some censure in Congress and some in the country, but the manifestation of that very censure would strengthen the Executive in the negotiation and have a favorable counter-effect in Europe. The interposition was of a character justifiable in itself, and the jealousy against it was over sensitive. For as a war between us and Spain could scarcely fail to kindle a war in Europe which would involve both France and Russia, they had a strong interest of their own in the event, which gave them a right at least to advise peace. The President concluded to retain the paragraph, and desired me to have two copies of the documents to be transmitted with the

message ready to be sent to Congress on Monday; and to ascertain from Poletica whether he was willing that a translation of the extract from Nesselrode's dispatch to him should be communicated with the other papers. (March 25).

* * * *

. . . The Florida treaty, when concluded last winter, was universally considered as obtaining so much more for us than had ever been expected, that not a voice could be raised against it in either House of Congress. Now the public feeling is different. For, while the King of Spain refuses to ratify because, he says, his Minister conceded too much, the people of our Western country have been instigated against the treaty as not having obtained enough. The Missouri question, too, has operated to indispose every part of the Union against the treaty: the North and East, because they do not wish to have Florida as another slave State; and the South and West, because they wish to have all the territory to the Rio del Norte for more slave States. Clay seizes upon this state of things, and has brought forward these resolutions, which are to operate in every possible contingency against the Administration. . . . (March 31)

Clay's resolutions are; 1. That Congress alone have power to cede territory, and no treaty can cede it without their sanction; and, 2. That the Florida Treaty ceded territory without an adequate equivalent, and ought not to be renewed. Edwards says he had at first been told that these resolutions would not have much support, but afterwards that they would, and perhaps might be carried in the House; that all the Western members would vote for them, and that the treaty had been rendered unpopular in the Western country. . . . (March 31)

I told Edwards that I had very little attachment to the treaty. I believed it now, as when it was signed, an acceptable bargain, but I had been the last man in the Administration to agree to accept the Sabine for the western boundary, and shall now be very ready to abandon the treaty if the opinion of an adequate por-

tion of either House of Congress should be adverse to it, that, as a servant of the whole Union, the interests of every part of the Union were equally dear to me - there was neither East, West, North, or South to my duty or my feelings, but, as an Eastern man, I should be disinclined to have either Texas or Florida without a restriction excluding slavery from them, and if I were now a member of either House of Congress, I would offer resolutions that the treaty ought not now to be accepted without an article prohibiting and excluding slavery from the territory to be acquired. I had been continually expecting that such resolutions would be offered by some one of the Northern or Eastern members. . . . (March 31)

* * * *

The President said he really did not think we ought to go to war for Florida, or that the nation would be willing to proceed to that extremity. This also was my opinion. But, after what had passed, I believed Florida might be occupied without risking a war, and it would deserve consideration whether any other course could be taken consistently with the honor of the nation . . . (April 7, 1820).

* * * *

. . . I had some conversation with Mr. Ruggles with regard to the opinions of the people in the Western country concerning the Florida Treaty and Mr. Clay's project of setting it aside and taking possession of the province of Texas. Ruggles said that this project was adverse to the interests of the State of Ohio, who would be well satisfied with the ratification of the treaty. . . . Mr. David Trimble, . . . came with a long argument to convince me that the only way for me to make myself popular in the Western country was to set the treaty aside and urge the recognition of the South American revolutionists, and insist upon the Rio del Norte as the western boundary (April 13)

I told him . . . I had no doubt that if the treaty should be set aside we should ultimately obtain more territory than it would secure to us, but we should get the same territory with the treaty sooner than we should want it; and even now I thought the greater

danger of this Union was in the overgrown extent of its territory, combining with the slavery question. . . . (April 13).

. . . He and Mr. Clay were excellent negotiators in theory. They were for obtaining all and granting nothing. They played a game between their own right and left hands, and could allot with admirable management the whole stakes to one hand and total discomfiture to the other. In the negotiation with Spain we had a just claim to the Rio del Norte, no claim to a line beyond the Rocky Mountains, and none to Florida, which we very much wanted. The treaty gives us the Mississippi and all its waters—gives us Florida—gives us an acknowledged line to the South Sea, and seventeen degrees of latitude upon its shores—gives our citizens five millions of dollars of indemnity—and barely gives up to Spain the colorable claim from the Sabine to the Rio del Norte. Now negotiation implies some concession upon both sides. If after obtaining every object of your pursuit but one, and that one weak in principle and of no present value, what would you have offered to Spain to yield that also? . . . (April 13).

* * * *

Mr. Calhoun thought it would be well to enlarge upon the absolute obligation of the King of Spain to ratify the treaty. I had been impressed with the same idea, but had omitted the argument, to avoid making the note too long. . . . (April 26).

* * * *

. . . The president read the draft of the message which he had prepared, closing with the recommendation that Congress should postpone acting upon the treaty till the next session, in consideration of the revolution in the Spanish Government. No objection to this course was now made, though Crawford and myself concurred in the opinion that it was substantially giving up the last chance to obtain the ratification of the treaty. Crawford still thought the best measure to be taken would be the immediate occupation of Florida. My opinion still is, that the best measure would be that Congress should authorize the occupation at the discre

tion of the President, leaving Spain still the alternative of ratifying the treaty during the summer. . . . (May 8).

* * * *

. . . I asked him whether he knew what was the occasion of the President's calling the Cabinet meeting on Saturday. He said it was a letter that he had received from Mr. Jefferson, in which, though mentioning in terms of high commendation the Florida Treaty, he yet advises that its ratification should not now be accepted, but that we should look to the occupation of Texas. . . . (May 22)

* * * *

This is the analysis of a session-opening message. Mr. Monroe's messages have always had a long paragraph upon the civil war between Spain and her Colonies, and there is one in the present message. There was some discussion about it. . . . (November 12).

. . . Mr. Clay having attempted to raise an opposition party upon a sympathetic feeling in the people of this country favorable to the South Americans and having insinuated that Mr. Monroe's Administration was partial against the South Americans, the President has thought it necessary to counteract this party maneuvering by professions of favor to them, repeated at every session of Congress . . . (November 12).

. . . I believe that these paragraphs of the message have been the principal real cause of the delay of Spain to ratify the Florida Treaty. (November 12).

* * * *

I this day received dispatches from Mr. Forsyth announcing definitely the ratification by the King of Spain of the Florida Treaty; . . . (January 4, 1821).

* * * *

General Vives, the Spanish Minister, came and informed me that Mr. De Barros had just arrived with the Florida Treaty ratified by the King of Spain. He said he had been so anxious to give me the first notice of this event himself that he had not even waited to open his dispatches, but had hastened here without losing one moment of time. I was much gratified with this mark of attention from the General, and made him

my acknowledgements for it. He said he would make me a communication on Monday. Barret came in the Rapid, from Bordeaux, for Philadelphia, and landed from the vessel at Wilmington, Delaware. He had a passage of eighty-eight days. I called at the President's and informed him of the arrival of the treaty—an occurrence which gave him great satisfaction. . . . (February 10, 1821)

* * * *

I answered him that I should forthwith make report to the President of the communication of the treaty as ratified by the Government of Spain; that this ratification, having been given after the expiration of the six months stipulated by one of the articles at the term within which the ratification should be exchanged, would be submitted to the Senate of the United States for their advice and consent, to receive it in exchange for the ratification of the United States heretofore given; that if this sanction of the Senate should be granted, I should give him notice of my readiness to exchange the ratifications with him. (February 12).

I went immediately over to the President's and informed him of this communication from General Vives. He desired me to prepare the draft of a message to the Senate for their advice and consent to the exchange of the ratifications. There was some question as to form of the message—whether it would be proper to propose a new ratification by the Senate, or simply their advice and consent to receive the Spanish ratification in exchange for the ratification of the United States, heretofore given. I thought the latter to be the proper and consistent form, and so the President directed it should be . . . (February 12)

* * * *

Ratifications of the Florida Treaty exchanged . . .

I then took the treaty with the King of Spain's ratification myself; the General took the treaty with the President's ratification; Mr. Ironside held one of the originals executed by me and Mr. Onis, and Mr. Salmon another. Mr. Brent held the printed copy with the President's proclamation. Mr. Salmon read, from the original in his hand, the treaty, all the rest comparing their re-

spective copies as he proceeded. I read in like manner the English, from the treaty which we retain with the Spanish ratification. Both the ratifications were then examined and found correct. . . . (February 22)

And thus have terminated, blessed be God, two of the most memorable transactions of my life. This day, two years have elapsed since the Florida Treaty was signed. Let my sons, if they ever consult this record of their father's life, turn back to the reflections on the journal of that day. Let them meditate upon all the vicissitudes which have befallen the treaty, and of which this diary bears witness, in the interval between that day and this. Let them remark the workings of private interests, of perfidious fraud, of sordid intrigues, of royal treachery, of malignant rivalry, and of envy masked with patriotism, playing to and fro across the Atlantic into each other's hands, all combined to destroy this treaty between the signature and the ratification, and then let them learn to put their trust in the overruling providence of God. I considered the signature of the treaty as the most important event of my life. It was an event of magnitude in the history of this Union. The apparent conclusion of the negotiation had been greatly and unexpectedly advantageous to this country. . . . (February 22, 1821) —*J. Q. Adams, Memoirs, Vol. V., pp. 25, 24, 34, 39, 53, 54, 60, 67, 68, 69, 76, 105, 127, 200, 228, 266, 269, 271, 288, 289.*

* * * *

The beginnings of the Florida question may be traced back to 1804 as we see from this extract from a letter from Jefferson to Monroe:

. . . We scarcely expect any liberal or just settlement with Spain and are perfectly determined to obtain or to take our just limits. How far you will suffer yourself to be detained there by the procrastinations of artifice or indolence must depend on the prospects which arise, and on your own determination to accept the government of Louisiana, which will admit of but a limited delay. It is probable that the inhabitants of Louisiana on the left bank of the Mississippi and inland Eastwardly to a considerable extent, will

very soon claim to be received under our jurisdiction, and that this end of W. Florida will thus be peaceably got possession of. For Mobile and the Eastern end we shall await favorable conjunctures. If they refuse to let our vessels have free ingress and egress in the Mobile to and from the Tombigby settlements, and if Spain is at war, the crisis there will be speedy. . . . (June 8, 1804) —*Ford, Writings of Thomas Jefferson, Vol. III, p. 289*

The cabinet take up the question in 1804, and decide upon certain principles. Jefferson to Madison:

We did not collect the sense of our brethren the other day by regular questions, but as far as I could understand from what was said, it appeared to be,—1. That an acknowledgement of our right to the Perdido, is a *sine qua non*, and no price to be given for it. 2. No absolute and perpetual relinquishment of right is to be made of the country East of the Rio Bravo del Norte even in exchange for Florida. (I am not quite sure that this was the opinion of all). It would be better to lengthen the term of years to any definite degree than to cede in perpetuity. . . . (July 5, 1804). —*Ibid, p. 309.*

Jefferson writes to Madison again on this question:

I think you have misconceived the nature of the treaty I thought we should propose to England. I have no idea of committing ourselves immediately or independently of our further will to the war. The treaty should be provisional only, to come into force on the event of our being engaged in war with either France or Spain during the present war in Europe. In that event we should make common cause, and England should stipulate not to make peace without our obtaining the objects for which we go to war, to-wit, the acknowledgement by Spain of the rightful boundaries of Louisiana (which we should reduce to our minimum by a secret article) and, 2. Indemnification for spoliations, for which purpose we should be allowed to make

reprisal on the Floridas and *retain them* as an indemnification . . . (Aug. 27, 1805) *Ibid*, p. 377.

Jefferson to Wilson Cary Nicholas:

It seems now certain there will be an extensive war on the continent of Europe. We shall avail ourselves of the time which this event gives us to bring Spain peaceably to reason, and I believe there is a way of doing it with dignity and effect. Should it even fail, we shall still be in time to do ourselves justice if the case shall call for it. This new state of thing is the more fortunate in proportion as it would have been disagreeable to have proposed closer connections with England at a moment when so much just clamor exists against her for her new encroachments on neutral rights

(Oct. 25, 1805).—*Ibid*, p. 383.

Cabinet decision on Spain:

1. Spain shall cede and confirm to the United States East and West Florida with the islands and waters thereon depending and shall deliver possession immediately. 2. The United States shall pay to Spain in the city of Madrid on delivery of possession five million dollars within . . . months after the treaty shall have been ratified by Spain. 3. Spain and France to have the same privileges respecting trade in the Floridas as (illegible) in Louisiana. * * * *

Spain shall pay to the United States in the city of Washington on or before the last day of December, 1807, four million dollars as an indemnification and acquittance for all spoliations committed under her flag on the citizens of the United States prior to the first day of November, 1805, with interest thereon from the date of this treaty, and for the faithful performance thereof she hypothecates to the United States the country described in the fifth article. (Nov. 14, 1805).—*Ibid*, pp 383-84.

Jefferson discusses the subject further.

. . . Should England make up with us, while Bonaparte continues at war with Spain, a moment may occur when we may without danger of commitment with either France or England seize to our own limits

of Louisiana as of right, and the residue of the Florida as reprisal for spoliation. . . . (Aug. 12, 1808 .

* * * *

. . . With respect to the boundaries they are as well ascertained as those of any unsettled country whatever, as well as the boundaries of several of these States, about which disputes still exist, and as the boundaries of many of the unsettled Northern countries of Europe. I wish you would authorize the President to take possession of East Florida immediately. The seizing of West Florida will be a signal to England to take Pensacola and St. Augustine, and be assured it will be done as soon as the order can return after they hear of our taking Baton Rouge, and we shall never get it from them, but by a war, which may be prevented by anticipation—there never was a case where the adage was more true, "in for a penny, in for a pound;" and no more offense will be taken by France and Spain at our seizure of both than of one. The English will take East Florida pretendedly for Spain. We should take it with a declaration 1. That it is a reprisal for indemnities Spain has acknowledged due to us. 2. To keep it from falling into hands in which it would essentially endanger our safety. 3. That in our hands it will still be held as a subject of negotiation. . . . (Jan. 5, 1811) — *Ford, Writings of Jefferson, Vol. IX., pp. 202, 290-91.*

At the date of Purchase Jefferson writes:

. . . I confess to you I am not sorry for the non-ratification of the Spanish treaty. Our assent to it has proven our desire to be on friendly terms with Spain; their dissent, the imbecility and malignity of their government towards us, have placed them in the wrong in the eyes of the world, and that is well; but to us the province of Texas will be the richest State of our Union, without any exception. Its southern part will make more sugar than we can consume, and the Red River on its north, is the most luxuriant country on earth. Florida, moreover, is ours. Every nation in Europe considers it such as a right. We need not care for its occupation in time of peace, and, in war, the first cannon makes it ours without offense to anybody.

. . . I really think, too, that neither the state of our finances, the condition of our country, nor the public opinion, urges us to precipitation into war. The treaty has had the valuable effect of strengthening our title to the Texas, because the cession of the Floridas in exchange for Texas imports an acknowledgement of our right to it. Thus province moreover, the Floridas and possibly Cuba, will join us in the acknowledgment of their independence, a measure to which their new government will probably accede voluntarily. . . . (May 14, 1820) — *Ford, Writings of Jefferson, Vol. X., p. 158-159.*

Report of a committee of the House of Representatives concerning the Florida treaty, Mr. Lowndes of South Carolina, chairman.

The Committee to whom has been referred so much of the President's Message, at the commencement of the session, as relates to foreign affairs, respectfully report . . .

That their attention was directed, immediately upon their appointment, to the state of the relations of the United States with Spain, and that their delay in making a report upon them must be attributed to their wish "to afford an opportunity for such friendly communications, during the present session of Congress," as the Government of Spain had authorized us to expect. They thought it better that Congress should postpone its determination until events might enable it to make that determination definite, than that it should pass a contingent act for authorizing measures which it was not proposed immediately to execute; that it should found its determination upon relations ascertained to exist, than upon a calculation of events which might be expected to occur during its sitting.

But more than a year has passed since the signature of the treaty by which it was proposed to terminate the long differences between the United States and Spain. More than six months since, the appointment of a new minister from Spain, who was "forthwith" to make known to the United States the intentions of the Government, and we have advanced so far in the session as

to make it necessary to propose, without further delay, any measure on which it is expected that Congress shall act before its adjournment.

The Committee will not attempt to add anything to the exposition of the rights of the United States and the obligations of Spain, which is contained in the correspondence between the two Governments. We can hardly expect, from continued negotiation, the redress which has been claimed for twenty years, and promised for eighteen which has been a second time promised, and a second time withheld. In such a negotiation, the signature of a treaty seems to be a mere incident, and not its term. For the spoliation which has been committed upon the property of our citizens, for the invasion of our soil, for the weakness or partiality which has made a Spanish territory the place of rendezvous and encampment of an enemy, and which has still more lately permitted the Indian inhabitants of territory (whom Spain was bound by treaty to restrain) to engage in savage hostilities against us; for all these acts of war, a people less attached to peace, would seek redress only by war. To capture and confiscate the ships and property of the wrongdoer, would be admitted to be a policy of mildness and forbearance. But, by such reprisals, the Government that does the wrong suffers less than the unoffending subject. It seems a more just reprisal to occupy the province which has been made an instrument of injury, which has been designated by Spain herself as the fund for our indemnity, and whose occupation by the United States will stop the accumulation of these claims for compensation and redress, which the misgovernment of that neglected colony continually produce. The Committee submit to the House a bill to authorize the President of the United States to take possession of East and West Florida, and establish a temporary government therein.

There appears too much reason to believe, from the mistake of the Spanish negotiator, as to the dates of the Spanish grants, which it was intended to annul, if the projected treaty had been ratified, that the Crown lands in Florida may be insufficient to provide the ex-

pected indemnity for our losses. But these may be applied as far as they will go, to the compensation of our citizens, and for the excess of our claim, Spain, by whose act the domain of Florida has been rendered inadequate, must expect us to look westward. Perhaps, when our attention is thus forced to a direction more interesting to Spain, her Government may at last admit that it is as much her interest as ours, that the just claims of the United States should be provided for by friendly convention, and we may hope that the next treaty between the two nations may be executed as well as signed.

The following is the bill accompanying the report:

Be it enacted, etc., That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized and required to take possession of, and occupy, the territories of East and West Florida, and the appendages and appurtenances thereof, and he is hereby authorized, for that purpose to employ any part of the Army and Navy of the United States, and the militia of any State, which he may deem necessary. (Other sections follow).—*Annals of Congress, 1820, p. 1618-19*

The following extracts from the debates in Congress over the treaty throws some light on the feeling and arguments of the time. The debate was extended and interesting. Clay's resolutions were as follows, over which the debate began:

Resolved, That the Constitution of the United States vests in Congress the power to dispose of the territory belonging to them, and that no treaty, purporting to alienate any portion thereof, is valid without the concurrence of Congress.

2. Resolved, That the equivalent proposed to be given by Spain, to the United States, in the treaty concluded between them, on the 22d day of February, 1819, for that part of Louisiana lying west of the Sabine, was inadequate, and that it would be inexpedient to make a transfer thereof to any foreign Power, or renew the aforesaid treaty.

* * * *

Has the House of Representatives a right to express its opinion upon the arrangement made in that treaty? The President, by asking Congress to carry it into effect, has given us jurisdiction of the subject, if we had it not before. We derive from that circumstance the right to consider first, if there be a treaty, secondly, if we ought to carry it into effect, and thirdly, if there be no treaty, whether it be expedient to assert our rights independent of the treaty. It will not be contended that we are restricted to that specific mode of redress which the President intimated in his opening Message (Clay, April 3, 1820)

It was far from his wish to renew at large a discussion of the treaty-making power. The Constitution of the United States had not defined the precise limits of that power, because, from the nature of it, they could not be prescribed. It appeared to him, however, that no safe American statesman would assign to it, a boundless scope. He presumed, for example, that it would not be contended that, in a Government which was itself limited, there was a functionary without limit. The first great bound to the power in question, he apprehended, was that no treaty could constitutionally transcend the very objects and purposes of the Government itself. — *Ibid*

* * * *

But if the concurrence of this House be not necessary in the cases asserted; if there be no restriction upon the power he was considering, it might draw to itself and absorb the whole of the powers of Government. To contract alliances, to stipulate for raising troops to be employed in a common war about to be waged, to grant subsidies, even to introduce foreign troops within the bosom of the country, were not unfrequent instances of the exercise of this power, and if, in all such cases, the honor and faith of the nation were committed, by the exclusive act of the President and Senate, the melancholy duty alone might be left to Congress of recording the ruin of the Republic.—*Ibid*

* * * *

(Here Mr. C. read an extract from a memoir presented in 1805, by Mr Monroe and Mr Pinckney, to

Mr Cevallos, proving that the boundary of Louisiana extended eastward to the Perdido, and westward to the Rio del Norte; in which they say, "The facts and principles which justify this conclusion are so satisfactory to their Government as to convince it that the United States have not a better right to the island of New Orleans, under the cession referred to, than they have to the whole district of territory thus described.)—*Ibid*

* * * *

All accounts concurred in representing Texas to be extremely valuable. Its superficial extent was three or four times greater than that of Florida. The climate was delicious; the soil fertile, the margins of the rivers abounded in live oak; and the country admitting of easy settlement. It possessed, moreover, if he were not misinformed, one of the finest ports on the Gulf of Mexico. The productions of which it was capable were suited to our wants. The unfortunate captive of St Helena wished for ships, commerce and colonies. We have them all, if we do not wantonly throw them away. The colonies of other countries are separated from them by vast seas, requiring great expense to protect them, and are held subject to a constant risk of their being torn from their grasp. Our colonies, on the contrary, are united to and form a part of our continent; and the same Mississippi, from whose rich deposit, the best of them (Louisiana) has been formed, will transport on her bosom the brave and patriotic men from her tributary streams to defend and preserve the next most valuable, the province of Texas.

We wanted Florida, or rather we shall want it, or, to speak yet more correctly, we want nobody else to have it. We do not desire it for immediate use. It fills a space in our imagination, and we wish it to complete the arrondissement of our territory. It must certainly come to us. The ripened fruit will not more surely fall. Florida is enclosed in between Alabama and Georgia, and cannot escape. Texas may. Whether we get Florida now or some five or ten years hence, is of no consequence, provided no other Power gets it, and if any other Power should attempt to take it, an existing act of Congress authorizes the President to prevent it. He

was not disposed to disparage Florida, but its intrinsic value was incomparably less than Texas. . . .—*Ibid.*

Anderson opposes the position of Clay.

There is another consideration which should make this House cautious in adopting the resolutions before us—cautious in abandoning the high ground we have obtained by our forbearance and magnanimity. The course of this protracted negotiation has gained to us much honor in the eyes of the world. Although we have failed as yet in getting a recompense for the wrongs done to us, we have acquired a character which was worth much more. We have shown to the world that we sought justice, not aggrandisement; we have shown that we could abstain from war, even when our adversary had given to us the amplest justification. We have defeated the malicious predictions of the politicians of Europe, who declared that we only sought an apology for seizing on Florida. The present state of the negotiation has just brought those Courts to the acknowledgement (a proud one for us) that we sought only peace and a fair settlement.

But, if we pass these resolutions, we suddenly relinquish this high ground, and assume the station of our adversary. For fourteen years we have been urgent, Spain reluctant, we have pressed, Spain has receded; but now when there is an indication of peace, we suddenly change sides—Spain presses and we recede. . . .
[Mr. Anderson, April 4, 1820.]—*Annals of Congress*, 1820, pp. 1712, 1723-28, 1770-71

QUESTIONS

(1) What principle do you find illustrated in the titles used for J. Q. Adams and De Onis in Article I of the treaty? (2) Make a map to show the boundary line drawn between the United States and Spain. (3) Draw a map bounding the Florida purchase. (4) How much territory did the United States claim which it yielded at this time? (5) How much money did the United States pay? (6) To whom was it paid? (7) How was this territory of Florida to be governed? (8) Who ratified treaties in Spain? (9) Who in the United States? (10) Whose consent must be obtained in the United States?

(1) Did Clay approve the treaty? (2) Give the reasons

assigned by Adams for Clay's action (3) What course did Clay think should be taken? (4) What are the "claims" mentioned so often in these discussions? (5) What were the "grants" so much discussed? (6) Had the king of Spain ratified the treaty according to agreement? (7) Would his non-ratification justify the United States in seizing Florida? (8) Did Adams believe he had made a favorable treaty for the United States? (9) How had the Missouri struggle affected the feeling of the different sections toward the treaty? (10) What measure did the Cabinet of Monroe discuss? (11) What foreign nations were taking a deep interest in the questions at issue between the United States and Spain? (12) What views did Clay take in regard to the treaty power of the president? (13) According to him what right had Congress over treaties? (14) Over territories of the United States? (15) Did slavery play any part in this long struggle? (16) Give plan of Mr. Trimble (17) What criticism does Adams make on Clay's capacity as a negotiator?

(1) Give the steps in the making, and ratification of this treaty. (2) Describe the last scene. (3) When did the struggle for the possession of Florida by the United States begin? (4) What claim did Jefferson make in regard to the ownership of West Florida? (5) Why did he not take possession of it in 1804? (6) What nation did Jefferson propose to unite with to gain Florida? (7) Give Jefferson's entire plan in 1805 (8) What his plans in 1808? (9) Did Jefferson approve of the treaty of purchase of 1819? (10) Give his plan. (11) Analyze the report of the committee of Congress (12) Give the plan of the committee. (13) Discuss Mr. Clay's resolutions and speech. (14) Does Anderson answer him satisfactorily? (15) Write a narrative history on "The Purchase of Florida."



THE ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.

United States' claim to, yielded, 1819. Became independent, 1836. United States recognized its independence, 1837. It seeks admission to the Union, 1837. Treaty of annexation rejected, 1844. Annexed by joint resolution, 1845. Became a state, December, 1845. Area, 376,123 square miles. By compromise of 1850, 96,707 square miles ceded to the United States. Total cost to the United States, about \$16,000,000.

CHAPTER VI

ANNEXATION OF TEXAS

The annexation of Texas, in 1845, was secured only after many years of discussion. As was noticed in the Louisiana study the United States had a fair claim to it from that purchase. However whatever right they had was yielded in 1819 with the purchase of Florida. Almost immediately thereafter efforts were made looking to its re acquisition. J. Q. Adams and Andrew Jackson both sought to purchase it, but found Mexico unwilling to dismember itself. Then came its independence in 1836, and the negotiations looking to its absorption by the United States.

The following extracts will trace in a fair measure the steps in the later-history, and will illustrate the nature of the arguments used by those who favored, and by those who opposed the annexation. It will be noticed that with rare exceptions the opponents came from the North, and mainly from the whig party. The arguments were on both sides based on the expediency and the constitutionality of the measure. The student will find an interesting problem in tracing down the new issue that came in with this expansion. A careful study should be made of the boundaries of Texas now, as compared with the limits she claimed

in 1845, at the time of her admission into the Union. › On the whole it may be claimed that with the annexation of Texas forces were set at work that did not cease to operate for many years, and in their effects greatly changed the entire tendency of our national life.

Joint resolution for annexing Texas to the United States.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the territory properly included within, and right fully belonging to, the Republic of Texas, may be erected into a new State, to be called the State of Texas, with a republican form of government, to be adopted by the people of said republic, by deputies in convention assembled, with the consent of the existing government, in order that the same may be admitted as one of the States of this Union

2. And be it further resolved, That the foregoing consent of Congress is given upon the following conditions and with the following guarantees, to wit: First, Said State to be formed, subject to the adjustment by this government of all questions of boundary that may arise with other governments; and the constitution thereof, with the proper evidence of its adoption by the people of said Republic of Texas, shall be transmitted to the President of the United States, to be laid before Congress for its final action on or before the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six. Second. Said State when admitted into the Union, after ceding to the United States all public edifices, fortifications, barracks, ports and harbors, navy and navy yards, docks, magazines, arms, armaments, and all other property and means pertaining to the public defense, belonging to said Republic of Texas, shall retain all the public funds, debts, taxes, and dues of every kind, which may belong to or be due and owing said republic; and shall also retain all the vacant and unappropriated lands lying within its limits, to be applied

to the payment of the debts and liabilities of said republic of Texas, and the residue of said lands, after discharging said debts and liabilities, to be disposed of as said State may direct; but in no event are said debts and liabilities to become a charge upon the government of the United States. Third. New States, of convenient size, not exceeding four in number, in addition to said State of Texas, and having sufficient population, may hereafter, by the consent of said State, be formed out of the territory thereof, which shall be entitled to admission under the provisions of the federal constitution. And such States as may be formed out of that portion of said territory lying south of thirty six degrees thirty minutes north latitude, commonly known as the Missouri Compromise line, shall be admitted into the Union, with or without slavery, as the people of each State asking admission may desire. And in such State or States as shall be formed out of said territory, north of said Missouri Compromise line, slavery or involuntary servitude (except for crime) shall be prohibited.

3. And be it further resolved, That if the President of the United States shall, in his judgment and discretion, deem it most advisable, instead of proceeding to submit the foregoing resolution to the Republic of Texas, as an overture on the part of the United States for admission, to negotiate with that Republic—then, Be it resolved, That a State, to be formed out of the present Republic of Texas, with suitable extent and boundaries, and with two representatives in Congress, until the next apportionment of representation, shall be admitted into the Union, by virtue of this act, on an equal footing with the existing States, as soon as the terms and conditions of such admission and the cession of the remaining Texan territory to the United States shall be agreed upon by the governments of Texas and the United States; and that the sum of one hundred thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated to defray the expenses of missions, and negotiations, to agree upon the terms of said admission and cession, either by treaty to be submitted to the Senate,

or by articles to be submitted to the two houses of Congress, as the President may direct

J. W. JONES,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

WILLIE P. MANGUM,

President Protempore of the Senate.

JOHN TYLER.

(Approved, March 1, 1845)

Executive Documents, 1st Session, 29 Congress, pp. 27, 38; also in United States Statutes, V, p. 797.

President Polk's Message, 1845.

In pursuance of the joint resolution of Congress, "for annexing Texas to the United States," my predecessor, on the third day of March, 1845, elected to submit the first and second sections of that resolution to the Republic of Texas, as an overture, on the part of the United States for her admission as a State into our Union. This election I approved, and accordingly the charge d'affairs of the United States in Texas, under instructions of the tenth of March, 1845, presented these sections of the resolution for the acceptance of that Republic. The executive government, the Congress, and the people of Texas in convention, have successively complied with all the terms and conditions of the joint resolution. A constitution for the government of the State of Texas, formed by a convention of deputies, is herewith laid before Congress. It is well known, also, that the people of Texas at the polls have accepted the terms of annexation and ratified the constitution. . . .

As soon as the Act to admit Texas as a State shall be passed, the union of the two Republics will be consummated by their own voluntary consent.

This accession to our territory has been a bloodless achievement. No arm of force has been raised to produce the result. The sword has had no part in the victory. We have not sought to extend our territorial possessions by conquest, or our republican institutions over a reluctant people. It was the deliberate homage of each people to the great principle of our Federal Union.

If we consider the extent of territory involved in the annexation—its prospective influence on America—the means by which it has been accomplished, springing purely from the choice of the people themselves to share the blessings of our union—the history of the world may be challenged to furnish a parallel.

The jurisdiction of the United States, which at the formation of the Federal constitution was bounded by the St. Mary's on the Atlantic, has passed the Capes of Florida, and has been peacefully extended to the Del Norte. In contemplating the grandeur of this event, it is not to be forgotten that the result was achieved in despite of the diplomatic interference of European monarchies. Even France, the country which had been our ancient ally—the country which has a common interest with us in maintaining the freedom of the seas—the country which, by the cession of Louisiana, first opened to us access to the Gulf of Mexico—the country with which we have been every year drawing more and more closely the bonds of successful commerce—most unexpectedly and to our unfeigned regret, took part in an effort to prevent annexation, and to impose on Texas, as a condition of the recognition of her independence by Mexico, that she would never join herself to the United States. We may rejoice that the tranquil and pervading influence of the American principle of self-government was sufficient to defeat the purposes of British and French interference, and that the almost unanimous voice of the people of Texas has given to that interference a peaceful and effective rebuke. From this example, European governments may learn how vain diplomatic arts and intrigues must ever prove upon this continent, against that system of self-government which seems natural to our soil, and which will ever resist foreign interference. *Executive Documents, 1st Session XXIXth Congress, pp. 3, 4, 5.*

Mr. ⁵Donelson, American Ambassador to Texas; March 31, 1845, writes:

It now remains for the government and people of Texas, by their acceptance and ratification of the provisions contained in this joint resolution, to finish the

great work of annexation; and to assume their station as an independent, equal, and sovereign member of the American confederacy, as soon as the constitutional requirements usual in the admission of new States can be complied with. Anxious to execute the trust devolved upon him by the resolution referred to, in the manner best calculated to secure its objects, and with the least inconvenience and delay to Texas, the President of the United States has instructed the undersigned to inform this government that he has selected as the basis of the action yet necessary on the subject, the first and second sections of the resolution, leaving out of view the remaining or third section. . . .

This great question, then, is in the hands of Texas. It depends upon herself whether she will be restored to the bosom of the republican family, and, taking her station with the other sisters of the confederacy, will co-operate with them in advancing the cause of free government; or whether, standing aloof from them, she is to run the hazards of a separate career, at a period in the affairs of the world when the friends of a different system of government are urged by the most powerful motives to resist the extension of the republican principle.—*Ibid*, pp. 34, 35

Mr. Donelson writes from Texas to Secretary of State Buchanan as follows:

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES, }
NEW ORLEANS, May 11, 1845. }

SIR: The Wabash, one of the vessels trading between this place and New York, has just arrived, and reports that she parted on the 5th instant with a British fleet, composed of one line-of-battle ship, one frigate, one sloop of war, and one ten-gun brig, supposed to be bound for Havana. This fleet was at The Hole in the Wall on the 4th.

The appearance of this force is doubtless in accordance with a previous understanding with Mexico; . . . Mexico, encouraged by the presence of this fleet, may still be blind enough to decide upon war with us, thinking that Texas, rather than be thus involved, may, as

the least of evils, prefer independence jointly guaranteed by France and England. *Ibid*, p. 45.

Again he writes, June 2, 1845:

SIR:—I reached this place two days ago in the steamer New York, and found here Captain Elliott, the British Minister, arrived the day before in a French corvette. He has the preliminary articles of a treaty, the basis of which is the independence of Texas, provided she will agree to maintain her separate sovereignty, or, in other words, not become a member of our Federal union. With these propositions he has repaired to the seat of government of Texas; so that at last we have the development of the plan concerted by the British government as an offset to the joint resolution offered by the Congress of the United States. . . .

But stripped of diplomatic phrase, this negotiation is nothing more nor less than a contrivance of Great Britain to defeat the measure of annexation, or involve Mexico in a war with the United States. Such will be the impartial judgment of the world when the curtain is lifted which has heretofore concealed the true character of the means that have affected the question.

Had the resolution for the annexation of Texas to our Union not been adopted at the last session of our congress, the pretensions of Mexico, instead of being lowered, as they now are, would have been elevated still higher, and she would have been made to renew her threats of war against Texas, whilst the kind offices of Capt. Elliott would have been employed in negotiating truces and treaties, until the foundation could have been laid for the operation of those peaceable means by which Lord Aberdeen has declared it to be the intention of his government to promote the abolition of slavery throughout the world. Abandoned by the United States, oppressed with debt, and wearied with the increasing burdens and privations of war, Texas would have been at the mercy of Great Britain, and her statesmen would have accepted almost any terms that would have secured peace. How different is the prospect since the passage of our joint resolution, which was unexpected to both England and Mexico. . . . —*Ibid* p. 52.

Mr. Donelson to Mr. Allen, June 11, 1845:

If Texas cannot be allowed to enjoy the blessings of peace and independence, as one of the sovereign members of the American Union, without asking permission of Mexico or of the monarchies of Europe, the fact is worth volumes of argument in explaining the duty of those who are struggling to maintain a system of government founded on the will and controlled by the authority of the people.

The United States did not seek to influence the action of Texas, whose free will first proposed the measure of annexation. On the contrary, history will record the event as new in the annals of nations, that the United States, avoiding the practice of almost all the great powers of the world, maintained a position on this question so subordinate to the sentiment of respect for even the prejudices of Mexico, that they for many years refused to consider it; nor did they sanction the measure at last, until it became apparent that its longer postponement would inflict an injury upon both Texas and themselves, which could not be reconciled with a sincere desire to sustain the republican cause. Yet no sooner in this measure, so long delayed, and decided upon, after being subjected to all the tests which could free it from misapprehension and prejudice, brought within the reach of the people of the two countries, and with a unanimity on the part of Texas almost entire, then she is told she must abandon it, or otherwise take the alternative of a war; for such substantially is the proposition now brought forward under the auspices of the French and English governments, by which Mexico at length agrees to recognize the independence of Texas, provided she will bind herself not to change her separate nationality — *Ibid* p. 58-9.

Acceptance by the Texan Congress of the joint resolution of annexation:

Whereas the government of the United States hath proposed the following terms, guarantees, and conditions on which the people and territory of the republic of Texas may be erected into a new State, to be called

the State of Texas, and admitted as one of the States of the American Union, to-wit:

(Here follows the first two sections of the joint resolution of the Congress of the United States.)

And whereas, by said terms, the consent of the existing government of Texas is required, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Texas in Congress assembled, That the government of Texas doth consent that the people and territory of the Republic of Texas may be erected into a new State, to be called the State of Texas, with a republican form of government, to be adopted by the people of said Republic by deputies in convention assembled, in order that the same may be admitted as one of the States of the American Union: and said consent is given on the terms, guarantees, and conditions set forth in the preamble to this joint resolution.

Sec. 2 Be it further resolved, That the proclamation of the President of the Republic of Texas, bearing date May fifth, eighteen hundred and forty-five, and the election of deputies to sit in convention at Austin on the fourth day of July next, for the adoption of a constitution for the State of Texas, had in accordance therewith, hereby receives the consent of the existing government of Texas.

Sec. 3 . . . —*Ibid* p. 76.

The convention of Texas called to consider the question of annexation passed the following:

Whereas the Congress of the United States of America has passed resolutions providing for the annexation of Texas to that Union, which resolutions were approved by the President of the United States on the first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, and whereas the President of the United States has submitted to Texas the first and second sections of the said resolution, as the basis upon which Texas may be admitted as one of the States of the said Union, and whereas the existing government of the Republic of Texas has assented to the proposals thus made, the terms and conditions of which are as follows:

(The first two sections of the joint resolutions of the Congress of the United States are here quoted)

Now in order to manifest the assent of the people of this Republic, as required in the above recited portions of the said resolutions, we, the deputies of the people of Texas, in convention assembled, in their name, and by their authority, do ordain and declare, that we assent to and accept the proposals, conditions, and guarantees contained in the first and second sections of the resolution of the Congress of the United States aforesaid . . . - *Ibid* p. 86

Notification and transmittal of the constitution of Texas

Sir: Under the instructions of the honorable convention, I have the honor herewith to transmit to your excellency the enclosed authenticated copy of the constitution of the State of Texas, adopted in convention on the 27th inst. [1845]

It is confidently expected that this constitution will be almost unanimously adopted by the people of Texas, and in sending it on, for the action of your government, they sincerely desire that it may meet with the approbation of the same, and, upon the final action of the United States Congress thereon, Texas may be admitted as one of the States of the great American Union — *Ibid* p. 104.

May 16, 1844, Mr. Benton [Mo.] spoke in part as follows:

Having shown the effect of the treaty on the Rio Grande frontier, Mr. Benton took up the treaty itself, under all its aspects and in its whole extent, and assumed four positions in relation to it, namely:

1. That the ratification of the treaty would be, of itself, war between the United States and Mexico.
2. That it would be unjust war.
3. That it would be war unconstitutionally made.
4. That it would be war upon a weak and groundless pretext. . . .

It is now my purpose, Mr. President, to show that all this movement, which is involving such great and seri-

ous consequences, and drawing upon us the eyes of the civilized world, is bottomed upon a weak and groundless pretext, discreditable to our government, and insulting, and injurious to Great Britain. We want Texas—that is to say, the Texas of La Salle, and we want it for great national reasons, obvious as day and permanent as nature. We want it because it is geographically appurtenant to our division of North America, essential to our political, commercial, and social system, and because it would be detrimental and injurious to us to have it fall into the hands or to sink under the domination of any foreign power. For these reasons, I was against sacrificing the country when it was thrown away—and thrown away by those who are now so suddenly possessed of a fury to get it back. For these reasons, I am for getting it back whenever it can be done with peace and honor, or even at the price of just war against any intrusive European power, but I am against all disguise and artifice—against all pretexts—and especially against weak and groundless pretexts, discreditable to ourselves, offensive to others, too thin and shallow not to be seen through by every beholder, and merely invented to cover unworthy purposes. I am against the inventions which have been brought forward to justify the secret concoctions of this treaty, and its sudden explosion upon us, like a ripened plot, and a charged bomb, forty days before the conventional nomination of a presidential candidate. In looking into this pretext I shall be governed by the evidence alone which I shall find upon the face of the papers, regretting that the resolution which I have laid upon the table for the examination of persons at the bar of the Senate, has not yet been adopted.—*Congressional Globe*, 1843-44, *Append x*, pp. 476, 479.

The arguments for annexation are well set forth in this speech:

The people of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, and the Territory of Florida, will have to prepare for the crisis. They, of all others, are most interested in the acquisition of Texas, and let them not be beguiled with the

syren song of peace, when there is no peace for them. Let them gird on their armor, and be ready for the worst. For one, Mr. Belser [Ala.] was for the treaty now, and as it is. He did not desire to see a single sentence abstracted from it. It was a plain document, easy to be understood. Honorable gentlemen might say that they were in favor of annexing Texas, but against the treaty. To believe such declarations would require too much "generous confidence." Are you for it or against it? is the proper inquiry. If you are in favor of Texas, cease your objections about the accompanying correspondence, and march up to the main issue. The people are not casuists; they are for plain, honest, fair legislation. They are tired of President making and more especially when their most pressing interests are made subservient to it. *Political idolatry is the bane of this Republic.*

And the abolitionists have no just reason for objecting to *immediate* annexation. If they are sincere in their opposition to slavery, the *further* it is removed from them the better. Like the law of merchandise, the slaves of the South will find their way to the best market, and wherever the lands are most fertile, there that market will be. Slavery now exists in Texas; and surely, to add Texas to the United States would not change its real character, or in any way increase it. To acquire Texas would be to *diffuse* slavery, and to remove most of that population from Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland, Virginia. In the course of time, a slave State or two might grow out of the annexation, but under the compact we are as much entitled to *such States* as the people beyond a certain limit are to *non-slaveholding States*.

Lastly, Mr. Belser would more immediately consider the advantages to be derived from annexing Texas to the United States.

It would open a new field to our adventurous population, and bring into requisition a large territory, remarkable for climate, fertility, its abundance of game, and everything else calculated to gladden the heart of man.

It would give additional stimulus to agriculture, commerce, and manufactures. Texas now raises about one hundred thousand bales of cotton, worth some four millions of dollars, and this is the basis of her exports. Annex her to the United States, and in a few years hence her cotton crop would double in amount. . . .

It is important in a military point of view. Give Great Britain possession of Texas, and you place her in command of the Gulf, and the whole of Mexico, from whence she can, if necessary, obtain provisions and men, you likewise give her control over our frontier, and facilities for exciting the servile population of the South, and the Indians of the West. *National security requires that Great Britain be kept out of Texas.*

It would return to the United States her natural boundaries and give her full command of her western waters. It would prevent smuggling by land, and by sea, the natural result of a protective tariff. If Great Britain ever obtains Texas, and adopts a system of free trade, protection would soon become a by-word; for, to use the language of another, "a corps of revenue officers, backed by the whole military arm of the government, could not protect our southwestern frontier."

It would check border wars, and prevent the hostile tribes from committing merciless butcheries on unoffending women and children. It is larger than France, and the money to be paid for it would soon be returned. No country ever refused such a boon.

It would be bringing into the Union a daughter of the pure blood—an heir to the inheritance of freedom, and be adding a *lustrous* gem to the American diadem.

What we have already witnessed on this subject is but the beginning of the excitement. The question of Texian annexation cannot die. The silence which at this time prevails some portions of the Union in regard to it, is like unto that which precedes the earthquake. Senators may reject the treaty, but the treaty in the end *will reject them*. The flame is not to be extinguished. Texas is ours, and no government can deprive a mother of such a daughter. Her constitution, laws, religion, language, and kindred, are a part of our

own; and those whom God has thus united let not nations put asunder. Great Britain may attempt again to *cajole* her into a fatal embrace, but, while we remain true to our obligations she will turn from the *tricks* of the harlot with *increased* indignation. *Congressional Globe, 1843-44, Appendix x, pp. 525-26*

Mr. Buchanan [Penn.] argues, in part, as follows:

Mr. President: The present is a question of transcendent importance. For weal or for woe, for good or for evil, it is more momentous than any question which has been before the Senate since my connection with public affairs. To confine the consequence of our decision to the present generation would be to take a narrow and contracted view of the subject. The life of a great nation is not to be numbered by the few and fleeting years which limit the period of man's existence. The life of such a nation must be counted by centuries and not by years. "Nations unborn and ages yet behind" will be deeply affected in their moral, political, and social relations by the final determination of this question. Shall Texas become a part of our glorious confederacy, shall she be bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh; or shall she become our dangerous and hostile rival? Shall our future history and that of hers diverge more and more from the present point and exhibit those mutual jealousies and wars, which according to the history of the world, have ever been the misfortune of neighboring and rival nations; or shall their history be blended together in peace and harmony? These are the alternatives between which we must decide. . . .

Now sir, annex Texas to the United States, and we shall have within the limits of our broad confederacy all the favored cotton growing regions of the earth. England will then forever remain dependant upon us for the raw material of her greatest manufacture, and an army of one hundred thousand men would not be so great a security for preserving the peace between the two nations as this dependence.—*Congressional Globe, 1843-44, Appendix pp. 721-21.*

Woodbury [New Hampshire] spoke in these words:

If I understand the substance of all the objections to the ratification of the present treaty, whether expressed in resolutions or debate, it is this:

First, that the government of the United States does not possess the constitutional right or power to purchase Texas, and admit her people into the Union. Next, that the present government of Texas alone has not the right or competency to make such a cession of her territory and sovereignty. And, finally that it is not our duty at present to complete the cession, even were the right on both sides clear.

This seems to me to be the whole case, when stripped of details and perplexing appendages. I shall examine these positions separately, and I trust with that fairness and dispassionate spirit which belong to a question so momentous to our own country, as well as a sister republic—a question, too, on which I speak as the organ of no administration or party, but above and beyond them all as an independent Senator, of an independent State, and trying to regard her interests, and those of the whole Union, in the long vista of the future, no less than at the present moment.

Some deny the constitutional power to purchase any territory situated without our original limits, while others deny not only that, but the power, at any time, to admit such territory and inhabitants into the Union as States.

Both of these powers have been exercised in the cases of buying Louisiana and the Floridas, and afterwards of admitting the three States of Louisiana, Arkansas and Missouri, carved out of the former territory.

They have, therefore, long been regarded as settled questions, till the opposition to them in this chamber, by the senators from New Jersey, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island Messrs MILLER, CHOATE, and SIMMONS) has burst forth with such vehemence, that it may be well to advert to a few principles and authorities in their support.

I do this the more readily, as the pretence that such a purchase ssion into the Union are unconsti-

tutional, is the only plausible justification for the otherwise treacherous or fanatical cry of Disunion, which so often deafens our ears. That cry originated on an occasion almost identical with this, when the act for admitting Louisiana as a State, in 1811, was pending. *Congressional Globe, Appendix, p. 760*

William Lloyd Garrison, at an Anti-Texas convention, in Faneuil Hall, Jan. 29, 1845, used this language:

That, in view of the fact that two branches of the government have already declared their wish and concurrence in the project of annexation, we deem it our duty distinctly to declare what ought to be, and what we have faith to believe will be, the course of Massachusetts, should the infamous plan be consummated. Deeming the act utterly unconstitutional and void, we declare that the people of this commonwealth will never submit to it as the law of the land, but look upon the Union as dissolved, and proceed to form a new government for herself and such of the free states as will aid her in carrying out the great purposes of our fathers in behalf of civil liberty. And we call upon the several towns of the commonwealth, whenever the President shall announce that Texas is annexed to this Union, immediately to assemble and choose delegates for a second session of this convention, which shall take measures for the formation of a new Union with such States as do not tolerate domestic slavery—the Union of 1789 having then ceased to exist.—*Life of Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Vol. III, p. 133*

Again, Sept. 22, 1845, he says:

"Sir," he said, "I know how nearly alone we shall be. An overwhelming majority of the whole people are prepared to endorse this horrible deed of Texan annexation. The hearts of the few who hate it are giving way in despair; the majority have got the mastery. Shall we therefore retreat, acknowledge ourselves conquered, and fall into the ranks of the victors? Shall we agree that it is idle, insane, to contend for the right any longer? . . .

"But who are we," will men ask, "that talk of such things? Are we enough to make a revolution? No, sir, but we are enough to *begin* one, and, once begun, it never can be turned back. I am for revolution, were I utterly alone. I am there because I *must* be there. I must cleave to the right, I cannot choose but obey the voice of God. Now, there are but few who do not cling to their agreement with hell, and obey the voice of the devil. But soon the number who shall resist will be multitudinous as the stars of heaven. . . .

"I thank God that, as has been stated by you, Sir, we stand on common ground here today. I pray God that party and sect may not be remembered. I trust the only question we shall feel like asking each other is, are we prepared to stand by the cause of God and Liberty, and to have NO UNION WITH SLAVERHOLDERS?"
—*Ibid* p. 140-41.

Extracts from J. Q. Adams' memoirs:

H. R. U. S. I presented twelve petitions and remonstrances against the admission of Texas into the Union. Many others were presented by other members [Sept 1837.]

. . . I therefore took my manuscript back with me, and at last finished my letter to Dr. Channing the most carelessly written of any letter that I ever wrote. It is upon the question concerning the annexation of Texas to this Union—a question of far deeper root and more overshadowing branches than any or all others that now agitate this country . . .

Dr. Channing's letter enquires of me what is the present aspect here of the Texan annexation question. I have answered him what it has been, what it is, what it will be. My answer is a letter to posterity, which will reach its address. [Nov. 1837.]—*Adams' Memoirs, IX p. 379, 431.*

Thompson replied insisting upon the claim of the people of the South to the annexation of Texas to preserve the balance of power especially in the Senate.—*Ibid, X., p. 11.*

There is now a rumor that Great Britain has offered Texas to mediate for her independence with Mexico, on

condition that Texas shall abolish slavery. . . .

--*Ibid.* XI, p. 356.

22d. This was a memorable day in the annals of the world. The treaty for the annexation of Texas to this Union was this day sent in to the Senate; and with it went the freedom of the human race. . . .

At the same time, the treaty for the annexation of Texas to the United States, with the President's message transmitting it to the Senate, and the accompanying documents, prematurely published, and the conflicting opinions of the leading men of the Union, disclosed in letters and speeches at public meetings, all indicate the immediate crisis of a great struggle between slavery and freedom throughout the world. I must retire from this contest, or perish under it, probably before the close of the present year, or even of the present session of Congress. The issue is precipitated by its bearing on the approaching presidential election. It is John Tyler's last card for a popular whirlwind to carry him through, and he has played it with equal intrepidity and address. He has compelled Clay and Van Buren to stake their last chance upon opposition to the measure now, and has forced himself upon the whole Democracy as their exclusive candidate for the Presidency next December. . . .

This Texan annexation we deem the turning point of a revolution which transforms the North American Confederation into a conquering and war-like nation. Aggrandizement will be its passion and its policy. A military government, a large army, a costly nation, distant colonies, and associate islands in every sea, will follow of course in rapid succession. A President for four years will be a laughing-stock. A Captain-General for life, and a Marshal's truncheon for a sceptre, will establish the law of arms for the Constitution, and the skeleton forms of war and slavery will stalk unbridled over the land. Blessed God, deliver us from this fate!—*Ibid.* XII, p. 13, 14, 22, 57.

Webster writes as follows:

In the first place, I have, on the deepest reflection, long ago come to the conclusion, that it is of very dan-

gerous tendency and doubtful consequences to enlarge the boundaries of this country, or the territories over which our laws are now established. There must be some limit to the extent of our territory, if we would make our institutions permanent. And this permanency forms the great subject of all my political efforts, the paramount object of my political regard. The government is very likely to be endangered, in my opinion, by a further enlargement of the territorial surface, already so vast, over which it is extended.

In the next place, I have always wished that this country should exhibit to the nations of the earth the example of a great, rich, and powerful republic, which is not possessed by a spirit of aggrandizement. It is an example, I think, due from us to the world, in favor of the character of republican government.

In the next place, Sir, I have to say, that while I hold, with as much integrity, I trust, and faithfulness, as any citizen of this country, to all the original arrangements and compromises under which the Constitution under which we now live was adopted, I never could, and never can, persuade myself to be in favor of the admission of other States into the Union as slave States, with the inequalities which were allowed and accorded by the Constitution to the slave-holding States then in existence. I do not think that the free States ever expected, or could expect, that they would be called on to admit more slave States, having the unequal advantages arising to them from the mode of apportioning representation under the existing Constitution.

. . . I certainly did, as a private citizen, entertain a strong feeling that, if Texas were to be brought into the Union at all, she ought to be brought in by diplomatic arrangements, sanctioned by treaty. But it has been decided otherwise by both houses of Congress; and, whatever my own opinions may be, I know that many who coincided with me feel themselves, nevertheless, bound by the decision of all branches of the government. My own opinion and judgment have not been at all shaken by any thing I have heard. . . .

— *Webster's Works*, Vol. V, pp. 56, 57, 59.

President John Tyler to Henry A. Wise.

Texas was the great scheme that occup'ed me. The delegates to the Democratic convention, or a very large majority of them, had been elected under implied pledges to sustain Van Buren. After his letter, repudiating annexation, a revulsion had become obvious, but how far it was to operate it was not possible to say. A majority of the delegates at least were believed still to remain in his favor. If he was nominated, the game to be played for Texas was all as one over. What was to be done?

My friends advised me to remain at rest, and take my chances in the Democratic convention. It was impossible to do so. If I suffered my name to be used in that convention, then I became bound to sustain the nomination, even if Mr. Van Buren was the nominee. This could not be. I chose to run no hazard, but to raise the banner of Texas, and convoke my friends to sustain it. This was but a few weeks before the meeting of the convention. To my surprise, the notice which was thus issued brought together a thousand delegates, and from every State in the Union. Many called on me on their way to Baltimore to receive my views. My instructions were, "Go to Baltimore, make your nomination, and then go home and leave the thing to work its own results." I said no more, and was obeyed. The Democratic convention felt the move. A Texan man or defeat was the choice left—and they took a Texan man. My withdrawal at a suitable time took place, and the result was soon before the world. I acted to ensure the success of a great measure, and I acted not altogether without effect. In so doing, I kept my own secrets; to have divulged my purposes would have been to have defeated them.—*Life and Times of the Tylers, Vol. II, p. 317.*

Jackson writes, Sept. 2, 1844, concerning the action of Tyler as follows:

Dear Sir: Your private letter of the 20th ultimo has been received, and I have read it with pleasure. The withdrawal of Mr. Tyler from the canvass will be duly

appreciated by all the Jeffersonian Republicans, and in the end redound to his popularity and free him from all selfish views which his enemies have been imputing to him in his patriotic endeavors to reannex Texas to the United States—the most important question, as it relates to the defense, the security, and safety of the most important interests of the whole Union that has ever been presented to us. If it is a great national, and not a party question.—*Ibid*, p. 341.

. . . I regard the preservation of the Union as the first great American interest. I equally disapprove of all threats of its dissolution, whether they proceed from the North or South. The glory of my country, its safety and its prosperity, alike depend on Union; and he who would contemplate its destruction, even for a moment, and form plans to accomplish it, deserves the deepest anathemas of the human race.

I believed, and still believe, that the annexation of Texas would add to its strength, and serve to perpetuate it for ages yet to come; and my best efforts, while I remain in office will be directed to securing its acquisition, either now or at a future day. . . .
—*Ibid* p. 349.

Giddings, on the 5th of January, 1846, discusses the annexation of Texas. His remarks illustrate well the attitude of the extreme anti-slavery men of the North: He said, in part:—

"It is the annexation of Texas that has rendered the whole of Oregon necessary to restore that balance of power. By the annexation of Texas the Slave States now have a majority in the Senate. They will continue to retain that majority unless we add territory to our northwestern border. By the annexation of Texas the protection of the free labor of the North has been surrendered to the control of the slave-power. Our constitutional rights and the honor of our Free States are delivered over to the keeping of slaveholders. . . . No, Mr. Speaker, it becomes us to act like men, to look our difficulties in the face, and to pursue the best mode

of retrieving the advantages that have been thrown away. That can only be done by restoring the balance of power by adding new States at the West and Northwest. To admit new States on that border, we must have the territory out of which such States may be formed.

'But Southern gentlemen—whose voices at the last session were heard, loud and long, in favor of Texas and the *whole of Oregon*—now see a lion in the way. They were then chivalrous, now they are all for peace. Then they waxed valiant, now they 'roar you as gently as any sucking dove.' But a year ago their motto was '*now or never*,' at this time '*a masterly inactivity*' is their maxim. Last year they spoke in strains of fervid eloquence of the glory of extending the American sway over new territory, and of adding new States to our brilliant constellation; now they call upon their Northern friends to stop this mad career of extending the power of our Government, and to leave the political control of the nation in their hands for a few years, until Great Britain shall quietly give up her claims to that territory. They have suddenly called to mind the declaration of British statesmen that 'a war with the United States will be a war of emancipation.' They see in prospect the black regiments of the British West India islands landing among them, and their slaves flocking to the enemy's standard. Servile insurrections torment their imaginations. Rapine, blood, and murder dance before their affrighted vision. They are now seen in every part of the hall, calling on Whigs and Democrats to save them from the dreadful consequences of their own policy. Well, sir, I reply to them, this is *your* policy, not ours; *you* have forced us into it against our will and our utmost opposition, *you* have prepared the poisoned chalice, and we will press it to your lips until you swallow the very dregs.'

QUESTIONS.

(1) In what two ways might the President have acted in securing the annexation of Texas? (2) Which way did he choose? (3) Can you find out why he chose the first method? (4) What conditions were to be imposed on Texas if she came into the Union? (5) How many

States might be formed out of Texas territory? (6) What slavery limitations were established? (7) Who was President when Texas was admitted into the Union? (8) What forces brought about the annexation? (9) Do all the persons quoted agree in regard to the reasons for annexation? (10) Make a list to show the reasons for annexation; against annexation.

(1) How were slavery and annexation coupled? (2) Summarize the arguments of Mr. Donelson for annexation. (3) Which one does he make most prominent? (4) See if you can find out if there was any truth in it. (5) Give the steps taken by Texas in ratifying the annexation. (6) State the views of Mr. Benton. (7) Give the arguments of Mr. Belser, (8) of Mr. Buchanan; (9) of Mr. Woodbury. (10) Summarize all their arguments.

(1) What do you think of Wm Lloyd Garrison's views? (2) Why did he take such radical ground? (3) What action did he propose? (4) Have any of J. Q. Adams' predictions been fulfilled? (5) What position did he take on expansion? (6) How did Webster stand on annexation? (7) What the reasons for his position? (8) Find out to which party Webster, Adams, etc., belonged. (9) Find out to which Buchanan, Woodbury, Belser, etc. (10) Compare the views of the two sides. (11) Write a paper on the annexation of Texas. (12) Make a map to show the area of Texas at time of annexation.

CALIFORNIA AND NEW MEXICO

Mexican cession, 1848. Area, 522,568 square miles. Gadsden purchase, 1853. Area, 45,535 square miles. Cost—principal, \$25,000,000. Attempts to purchase, 1845. "Bear Flag" Republic, 1846. "Wilmot Proviso" struggle, 1846-1847. California gold, 1848. Free State Constitution formed, 1849. Admitted, 1850. New Mexico and Utah made territories, 1850, with popular sovereignty doctrine applied.

CHAPTER VII

ANNEXATION OF CALIFORNIA AND NEW MEXICO

The outcome of the annexation of Texas—the subject of our last study—was the war with Mexico. At the close of the struggle a vast area of new territory was annexed to the United States—obtained in part by conquest and in part by purchase. Few events in our history were more seriously and strenuously discussed at the time, and perhaps fewer still have proved more momentous in their results. The question was discussed from the standpoint of constitutionality to some extent, but to a far greater extent from that of expediency. The question of annexation did not prove as difficult to settle however, as the issue which followed what should be the institutions of the annexed territories. This subject was before congress and the people constantly for four years, from 1846, even before any territory was acquired to be governed to 1850 when it was finally temporarily settled by the compromise of 1850. The final question however was only solved in the bloody throes of war from 1861 to 1865.

A part of the next chapter will be concerned with the settlement of this question, while a

part will be given to the Oregon boundary dispute. In the present chapter material will be found to show the area acquired, the cost in part, and the main arguments for and against the annexation.

Extract from President Polk's Message of Dec. 8, 1846.

. . . Such is the history of the wrongs which we have suffered and patiently endured from Mexico through a long series of years. So far from affording reasonable satisfaction for the injuries and insults we had borne, a great aggravation of them consists in the fact, that while the United States, anxious to preserve a good understanding with Mexico, have been constantly, but vainly, employed in seeking redress for past wrongs, new outrages were constantly occurring, which have continued to increase our causes of complaint and to swell the amount of our demands. While the citizens of the United States were conducting a lawful commerce with Mexico under the guaranty of a treaty of "amity, commerce, and navigation," many of them have suffered all the injuries which would have resulted from open war. This treaty, instead of affording protection to our citizens, has been the means of inviting them into the ports of Mexico, that they might be, as they have been in numerous instances, plundered of their property and deprived of their personal liberty if they dared to insist on their rights. Had the unlawful seizures of American property, and the violation of the personal liberty of our citizens to say nothing of the insults to our flag which have occurred in the ports of Mexico, taken place on the high seas, they would themselves long since have constituted a state of actual war between the two countries. In so long suffering Mexico to violate her most solemn treaty obligations, plunder our citizens of their property, and imprison their persons without affording them any redress, we have failed to perform one of the first and

highest duties which every government owes to its citizens; and the consequence has been, that many of them have been reduced from a state of affluence to bankruptcy. The proud name of American citizen, which ought to protect all who bear it from insult and injury throughout the world, has afforded no such protection to our citizens in Mexico. We had ample cause of war against Mexico long before the breaking out of hostilities. But even then we forbore to take redress into our own hands, until Mexico herself became the aggressor by invading our soil in hostile array and shedding the blood of our citizens.

Such are the grave causes of complaint on the part of the United States against Mexico--causes which existed long before the annexation of Texas to the American Union; and yet, animated by the love of peace, and a magnanimous moderation, we did not adopt those measures of redress which, under such circumstances, are the justified resort of injured nations.

The annexation of Texas to the United States constituted no just cause of offence to Mexico. The pretext that it did so is wholly inconsistent and irreconcilable with well authenticated facts connected with the revolution by which Texas became independent of Mexico. That this may be the more manifest, it may be proper to advert to the causes and to the history of the principal events of that revolution. . . . —*Richardson, Messages and Documents of the Presidents, Vol. IV., pp. 478, 479*

The war has not been waged with a view to conquest; but having been commenced by Mexico, it has been carried into the enemy's country, and will be vigorously prosecuted there, with a view to obtain an honorable peace, and thereby secure ample indemnity for the expenses of the war, as well as to our much injured citizens, who hold large pecuniary demands against Mexico.

By the laws of nations a conquered territory is subject to be governed by the conqueror during his military possession, and until there is either a treaty of peace, or he shall voluntarily withdraw from it. The

old civil government being necessarily superseded, it is the right and duty of the conqueror to secure his conquest, and to provide for the maintenance of civil order and the rights of the inhabitants. This right has been exercised, and this duty performed, by our military and naval commanders, by the establishment of temporary governments in some of the conquered provinces in Mexico, assimilating them as far as practicable to the free institutions of our own country. In the provinces of New Mexico and of the Californias, little if any further resistance is apprehended from the inhabitants to the temporary governments which have thus, from the necessity of the case, and according to the laws of war, been established. It may be proper to provide for the security of these important conquests by making an adequate appropriation for the purpose of erecting fortifications and defraying the expenses necessarily incident to the maintenance of our possession and authority over them — *Ibid*, p. 494.

The following preamble and resolutions framed by the legislature of Vermont, make interesting reading:—

Whereas, in our judgment, the existing war with Mexico was not founded in any imperative necessity, such as may justify a Christian nation for resorting to arms, and has now manifestly become an offensive war against a neighboring republic, and whereas we have just grounds for anticipating that the territory which has been, or may be occupied or conquered, will become slave territory, and, as such, claim admission to the Union; and whereas its admission as such, and with a mixed population, degraded by ignorance and superstition and allied to us neither in interests, character, nor language, will endanger the harmony, welfare, and perpetuity of the Union: therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, That the honor and best interests of the nation will be subserved by a speedy end of the war with Mex-

ico, and a settlement of all matters in dispute by arbitration or negotiation.

Resolved, That Vermont will not give its countenance, aid, or assent to the admission into the federal Union of any new State whose Constitution tolerates slavery; and does hereby appeal to each of her sister States to concur, in its own name, in this declaration

Resolved, That the Senators and Representatives in Congress from Vermont will conform to the hearty wishes of their constituents by earnestly supporting the principles set forth in the foregoing preamble and resolutions, and in using all other just, effectual, and constitutional means to avert the tremendous evils of slavery, and resist its encroachments upon the rights and interests of the non-slaveholding states.

Resolved, That his excellency the governor be requested to forward a copy of these resolutions to the governor of each State in the Union, and to our Senators and Representatives in Congress, under the seal of the State, and with his signature of approval.

Approved Nov. 3, 1846.

Executive Documents, 2nd Session, 29th Congress, Document No. 81.

An extract from a series of resolutions passed by the legislature of Rhode Island, January 6, 1847, throws additional light on the opinions of the time:—

We protest, therefore, against the acquisition of territory, by conquest or otherwise, beyond the present limits of the United States for the purpose of establishing therein slaveholding States, as deranging the balance of political power once so happily established between our confederated communities, and as manifestly in violation of the spirit and interest of the constitution. We protest against the introduction of slaves, upon any terms, into any territory of the United States, whether of old or recent acquisition, where slavery does not exist or has not immemorially existed; and we hold, that so far from aiming to extend an institution like

slavery over a wider territory than is now pervaded by it, it is clearly the interest, no less than the duty of the slaveholding States, to circumscribe its operations within their own limits, and to provide, if possible, the means of its gradual extinguishment whenever public sentiment will permit it. . . .

Resolved, That, holding these opinions of the origin of our war with Mexico, and deeming a war of conquest inconsistent with the genius of our institutions, and destructive of their freedom and permanency, we instruct our Senators and request our Representatives in Congress to press upon the Executive department, on all proper occasions, the necessity of frank and equitable overtures to that republic for the re-establishment of peace and to avow in their own bodies all acts and declarations which may promote that end, consistently with a due observance of the rights, claims, and reputation of the United States — *Ibid*, Document 85

The Virginia resolutions of Febr. 13, 1847, show that the States were not a unit in opinion in regard to the justice of the war:—

WHEREAS, There are occasions of absorbing interest and great peril in the history of every people deeply involving their peace, prosperity, and happiness, and this General Assembly believing that such a crisis has arrived in our country as to call forth an expression of public sentiment, do hereby declare that a free and full expression of opinion on the great question of peace and war, which now agitates this Union, is demanded by the public weal.

Resolved, That the present war with the republic of Mexico, most unrighteously provoked on her part by a long series of acts of injustice and outrage towards the United States, presents such an occasion as requires the united action of all true friends of the country in enforcing a speedy and honorable termination of this war by a vigorous prosecution of hostilities.

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Assembly are due, and are hereby cordially tendered, to the Pres-

ident of the United States, for the justice, firmness, and eminent ability with which he has conducted the war with Mexico. - *Ibid.*, Document 97.

Extracts from the treaty of peace with Mexico—the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Made Febr. 2; proclaimed, July 4, 1848:—

The boundary line between the two Republics shall commence in the Gulf of Mexico, three leagues from land, opposite the mouth of the Rio Grande, otherwise called Rio Bravo del Norte, or opposite the mouth of its deepest branch, if it should have more than one branch emptying directly into the sea. From thence up the middle of that river, following the deepest channel, where it has more than one to the point where it strikes the southern boundary of New Mexico, thence, westwardly, along the whole southern boundary of New Mexico (which runs north of the town called Paso) to its western termination, thence, northward, along the western line of New Mexico, until it intersects the first branch of the river Gila, (or if it should not intersect any branch of that river, then to the point on the said line nearest to such branch, thence in a direct line to the same,) thence down the middle of the said branch and of the said river, until it empties into the Rio Colorado, thence across the Rio Colorado, following the division line between Upper and Lower California, to the Pacific Ocean. . . .

In order to designate the boundary line with due precision, upon authoritative maps, and to establish upon the ground land marks which shall show the limits of both republics, as described in the present article, the two Governments shall each appoint a commissioner and a surveyor, who, before the expiration of one year from the date of the exchange of ratifications of this treaty, shall meet at the port of San Diego, and proceed to run and mark the said boundary in its whole course to the mouth of the Rio Bravo del Norte. . . .

Those [inhabitants] who shall prefer to remain in the said territories may either retain the title and rights of

Mexican citizens, or acquire those of citizens of the United States. But they shall be under the obligation to make their election within one year from the date of the exchange of ratifications of this treaty, and those who shall remain in the said territories after the expiration of that year, without having declared their intention to retain the character of Mexicans, shall be considered to have elected to become citizens of the United States . . .

The Mexicans who, in the territories aforesaid, shall not preserve the character of citizens of the Mexican Republic, conformably with what is stipulated in the preceding article, shall be incorporated into the Union of the United States, and be admitted at the proper time (to be judged by the Congress of the United States) to the enjoyment of all the rights of citizens of the United States, according to the principles of the Constitution, and in the meantime, shall be maintained and protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty and property, and secured in the free exercise of their religion without restriction.

In consideration of the extension acquired by the boundaries of the United States, as defined in the fifth article of the present treaty, the Government of the United States engages to pay to that of the Mexican Republic the sum of fifteen millions of dollars. --*Public Treaties, Edition 1875, pp. 494, 495, 496, 497*

Extracts from a speech of Daniel Webster, March 1, 1847, in the Senate, on the Mexican War :

. . . In their [Whigs] judgment it is due to the best interests of the country, to its safety, to peace and harmony, and to the well-being of the Constitution, to declare at once, to proclaim now, that we desire no new States, nor territory to form new States out of, as the end of conquest. For one, I enter into this declaration with all my heart. We want no extension of territory, we want no accession of new States. The country is already large enough. I do not speak of any cession

which may be made in the establishment of boundaries, or of the acquisition of a port or two on the Pacific, for the benefit of navigation and commerce. But I speak of large territories, obtained by conquest, to form States to be annexed to the Union; and I say I am opposed to such acquisition altogether. I am opposed to the prosecution of the war for any such purpose.

But, Sir, to speak more seriously, this war was waged for the object of creating new States, on the southern frontier of the United States, out of Mexican territory, and with such population as could be found resident thereupon. I have opposed this object. I am against all accessions of territory to form new States. And this is no matter of sentimentality, which I am to parade before mass meetings or before my constituents at home. It is not a matter to me of declamation, or of regret, or of expressed repugnance. It is a matter of firm, unchangeable purpose. I yield nothing to the force of circumstances that have occurred, or that I can consider as likely to occur. And therefore I say, Sir, that, if I were asked to day whether for the sake of peace, I would take a treaty for adding two new States to the Union on our southern border, I would say, No distinctly, No. And I wish every man in the United States to understand that to be my judgment and my purpose.

I said upon our *southern* border, because the present proposition takes that locality. I would say the same of the western, the northeastern, or of any other border. I resist, to day and forever, and to the end, any proposition to add any foreign territory, south or west, north or east, to the States of this Union, as they are constituted and held together under the Constitution. I do not want the colonies of England on the north, and as little do I want the population of Mexico on the south. I resist and reject all, and all with equal resolution. Therefore I say, that, if the question were put to me to-day, whether I would take peace under the present state of the country, distressed as it is, during the existence of a war odious as this is, under circumstances

so afflictive as now exist to humanity, and so disturbing to the business of those whom I represent, I say still, if it were put to me whether I would have peace, with new States, I would say, No' no' And that because, Sir, in my judgment, there is no necessity of being driven into that dilemma. . . .

But we hear gentlemen say, We must have some territory, the people demand it I deny it at least, I see no proof of it whatever I do not doubt that there are individuals of an enterprising character, disposed to emigrate, who know nothing about New Mexico but that it is far off, and nothing about California but that it is still farther off, who are tired of the dull pursuits of agriculture and of civil life that there are hundreds and thousands of such persons to whom whatsoever is new and distant is attractive They feel the spirit of borderers, and the spirit of a borderer, I take it, is to be tolerably contented with his condition where he is, until somebody goes to regions beyond him and then he is all eagerness to take up his traps and go still farther than he who has thus got in advance of him With such men the desire to emigrate is an irresistible passion.

But it is said we must take territory for the sake of peace We must take territory It is the will of the President If we do not now take what he offers, we may fare worse Mr Polk will take no less, that he is fixed upon He is immovable He has put down—his 'foot' Well, Sir, he put it down upon 'fifty-four forty,' but it didn't stay I speak of the President, as of all Presidents, without disrespect I know of no reason why his opinion and his will, his purpose, declared to be final, should control us, any more than our purpose, from equally conscientious motives, and under as high responsibilities, should control him We think he is firm, and will not be moved I should be sorry, Sir, very sorry, indeed, that we should entertain more respect for the firmness of the individual at the head of the government than we entertain for our own firmness. He stands out against us Do we fear to stand out

against him? For one, I do not. It appears to me to be a slavish doctrine. For one, I am willing to meet the issue, and go to the people all over this broad land. Shall we take peace without new States, or refuse peace without new States? I will stand upon that, and trust the people. And I do that because I think it is right, and because I have no distrust of the people . . .

My first agency in matters of this kind was upon the proposition for admitting Texas into this Union. That I thought it my duty to oppose, upon the general ground of opposing all formation of new States out of foreign territory, and, I may add, and I ought to add in justice, of States in which slaves were to be represented in the Congress of the United States. I was opposed to this on the ground of its inequality. . . .

I say, Sir, that, according to my conscientious conviction, we are now fixing on the Constitution of the United States, and its frame of government, a monstrosity, a disfiguration, an enormity! Sir, I hardly dare trust myself. I don't know but I may be under some delusion. It may be the weakness of my eyes that forms this monstrous apparition. But, if I may trust myself, if I can persuade myself that I am in my right mind, then it does appear to me that we in this Senate have been and are acting, and are likely to be acting hereafter, and immediately, a part which will form the most remarkable epoch in the history of our country. I hold it to be enormous, flagrant, an outrage upon all the principles of popular republican government, and on the elementary provisions of the Constitution under which we live, and which we have sworn to support.

But then, Sir, what relieves the case from this enormity? What is our reliance? Why, it is that we stipulate that these new States shall only be brought in at a suitable time. And pray, what is to constitute the suitability of time? Who is to judge of it? I tell you, Sir, that suitable time will come when the preponderance of party power here makes it necessary to bring in new States. Be assured it will be a suitable time when votes are wanted in this Senate. . . .

Sir, we take New Mexico and California, who is weak enough to suppose that there is an end? Don't we hear it avowed every day, that it would be proper also to take Sonora, Tamaulipas, and other provinces of Northern Mexico? Who thinks that the hunger for dominion will stop here of itself? It is said, to be sure, that our present acquisition will prove so lean and unsatisfactory, that we shall seek no further. In my judgment, we may as well say of a rapacious animal, that if he has made one unproductive hunt, he will not try for a better foray. . . .

Have they [the inhabitants of New Mexico and California] any notion of our institutions, or of *any* free institutions? Have they any notion of popular government? Not the slightest. Not the slightest on earth! When the question is asked, What will be their constitution? it is farcical to talk of such people making a constitution for themselves. They do not know the meaning of the term, they do not know its import. They know nothing at all about it, and I can tell you, Sir, that when they are made a Territory, and are to be made a State, such a constitution as the executive power of this government may think fit to send them will be sent, and will be adopted. The constitution of our *fellow citizens* of New Mexico will be framed in the city of Washington. . . .

Mr. President, for a good many years I have struggled in opposition to everything which I thought tended to strengthen the arm of executive power. I think it is growing more and more formidable every day. And I think that by yielding to it in this, as in other instances, we give it a strength which it will be difficult hereafter to resist. I think it is nothing less than the fear of executive power which induces us to acquiesce in the acquisition of territory, *fear, fear*, and nothing else.

In the little part which I have acted in public life, it has been my purpose to maintain the people of the United States, what the Constitution designed to make them, *one people*, one in interest, one in character, and one in political feeling. If we depart from that, we

break it all up. What sympathy can there be between the people of Mexico and California and the inhabitants of the Valley of the Mississippi and the Eastern States in the choice of a President? Do they know the same man? Do they concur in any general constitutional principles? Not at all.

Arbitrary governments may have territories and distant possessions, because arbitrary governments may rule them by different laws and different systems. Russia may rule in the Ukraine and the provinces of the Caucasus and Kamtschatka by different codes, ordinances, or ukases. We can do no such thing. They must be of us, *part* of us, or else strangers.

I think I see that in progress which will disfigure and deform the Constitution. While these territories remain territories, they will be a trouble and an annoyance, they will draw after them vast expenses, they will probably require as many troops as we have maintained during the last twenty years to defend them against the Indian tribes. We must maintain an army at that immense distance. When they shall become States, they will be still more likely to give us trouble.

I think I see a course adopted which is likely to turn the Constitution of the land into a deformed monster, into a curse rather than a blessing, in fact, a frame of an unequal government, not founded on popular representation, not founded on equality, but on the grossest inequality, and I think that the process will go on, or that there is *danger* that it will go on, until this Union shall fall to pieces. I resist it, to day and always! Whoever falters or whoever flies, I continue the contest.

I know, Sir, that all the portents are discouraging. Would to God I could auspicate good influences! Would to God that those who think with me, and myself, could hope for stronger support! Would that we could stand where we desire to stand. I see the signs are sinister. But with few, or alone, my position is fixed. If there were time, I would gladly awaken the country. I believe the country might be awakened, although it may be too late. For myself, supported or unsupported, by

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In the little part which I have acted in public life, it has been my purpose to maintain the people of the ~~United~~ States, what the Constitution designed to make *people*, one in interest, one in character, and one in feeling. If we depart from that, we

Union, would be unprecedented by any example in our history. We have conquered many of the neighboring tribes of Indians, but we have never thought of holding them in subjection, or of incorporating them into our Union. They have been left as an independent people in the midst of us, or been driven back into the forests. Nor have we ever incorporated into the Union any but the Caucasian race. To incorporate Mexico would be the first departure of the kind, for more than half of its population are pure Indians, and by far the larger portion of the residue mixed blood. I protest against the incorporation of such a people. Ours is the government of the white man. . . .

The next remaining reasons assigned, that it would be in conflict with the genius and character of our government, and, in the end, subversive of our free institutions, are intimately connected, and I shall consider them together.

That it would be contrary to the genius and character of our government, and subversive of our free popular institutions, to hold Mexico as a subject province, is a proposition too clear for argument before a body so enlightened as the Senate. You know the American constitution too well, you have looked into history, and are too well acquainted with the fatal effects which large provincial possessions have ever had on the institutions of free states, to need any proof to satisfy you how hostile it would be to the institutions of this country, to hold Mexico as a subject province. There is not an example on record of any free state holding a province of the same extent and population, without disastrous consequences. The nations conquered and held as a province, have, in time, retaliated by destroying the liberty of their conquerors through the corrupting effect of extended patronage and irresponsible power.~ Such, certainly, would be our case. The conquest of Mexico would add so vastly to the patronage of this government, that it would absorb the whole powers of the States, the Union would become an imperial power, and the States reduced to mere subordinate corporations.

But the evil would not end there; the process would go on, and the power transferred from the States to the Union would be transferred from the Legislative Department to the Executive. All the immense patronage which holding it as a province would create, the maintenance of a large army, to hold it in subjection, and the appointment of a multitude of civil officers necessary to govern it, would be vested in him. The great influence which it would give the President, would be the means of controlling the Legislative Department, and subjecting it to his dictation, especially when combined with the principle of proscription which has now become the established practice of the government. The struggle to obtain the Presidential chair would become proportionately great—so great as to destroy the freedom of elections. The end would be anarchy or despotism, as certain as I am now addressing the Senate. ; . . .

Nor are the reasons less weighty against incorporating her into the Union. As far as law is concerned, this is easily done. All that is necessary is to establish a territorial government for the several States in Mexico,—of which there are upwards of twenty,—to appoint governors, judges, and magistrates, and to give to the population a subordinate right of making laws, we defraying the cost of the government. So far as legislation goes, the work will be done; but there would be a great difference between these territorial governments, and those which we have heretofore established within our own limits. These are only the offsets of our own people, or foreigners from the same countries from which our ancestors came. The first settlers in the territories are too few in number to form and support a government of their own, and are under obligation to the government of the United States for forming one for them, and defraying the expense of maintaining it; knowing, as they do, that when they have sufficient population, they will be permitted to form a constitution for themselves, and be admitted as members of the Union. During the period of their territorial government, no force is necessary to keep them in a state of subjection.

The case will be entirely different with these Mexican territories, when you form them you must have powerful armies to hold them in subjection, with all the expenses incident to supporting them. You may call them territories, but they would, in reality, be but provinces under another name, and would involve the country in all the difficulties and dangers which I have already shown would result from holding the country in that condition. How long this state of things would last before they would be fitted to be incorporated into the Union as States, we may form some idea from similar instances with which we are familiar. . . .

But suppose this difficulty removed. Suppose their hostility should cease, and they should become desirous of being incorporated into our Union. Ought we to admit them? Are the Mexicans fit to be politically associated with us? Are they fit not only to govern themselves, but for governing us also? Are any of you, Senators willing that your State should constitute a member of a Union, of which twenty odd Mexican States, more than one third of the whole, would be a part, the far greater part of the inhabitants of which are pure Indians, not equal in intelligence and elevation of character to the Cherokees, Choctaws, or any of our Southern Indian tribes? . . .

But of the few nations who have been so fortunate as to adopt a wise constitution, still fewer have had the wisdom long to preserve one. It is harder to preserve than to obtain liberty. After years of prosperity, the tenure by which it is held is but too often forgotten; and I fear, Senators, that such is the case with us. . . .

I have now shown, Senators, that the conquest of Mexico, and holding it as a subject province, or incorporating it into our Union, is liable to the many and irresistible objection assigned in the first resolution.

. . . —*Calhoun, Works, Vol. IV, pp. 405, 410, 411, 412, 414, 415, 416, 417-418.*

The following extracts from A. H. Stephens' speeches, in 1846, will show the attitude of the

Southern Whigs on the subject of extension of territory:

. . . I am no enemy to the extension of our domain, or the enlargement of the boundaries of the Republic. Far from it I trust the day is coming, and not far distant, when the whole continent will be ours, when our institutions shall be diffused and cherished, and republican government felt and enjoyed throughout the length and breadth of the land—from the far south to the extreme north, and from ocean to ocean. That this is our ultimate destiny, if wise counsels prevail, I confidently believe. But it is not to be accomplished by the sword. Mr Chairman, republics never spread by arms. We can only properly enlarge by voluntary accessions, and should only attempt to act upon our neighbors by setting them a good example. In this way only is the spirit of our institutions to be diffused as the leaven until "the whole lump is leavened." This has been the history of our silent but rapid progress, thus far. In this way Louisiana with its immense domain was acquired. In this way we got Oregon, connecting us with the Pacific. In this way Texas, up to the Rio Grande, might have been added, and in this way the Californias, and Mexico herself, in due time may be merged in one great republic . . .

"Be it therefore Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the present war with Mexico is not waged with a view to conquest, or the dismemberment of that republic by the acquisition of any portion of her territory.

"Be it further Resolved by the authority aforesaid, That it is the desire of the United States that hostilities should terminate upon terms honorable to both parties; embracing a liberal settlement on our part of the questions growing out of the proper and rightful boundary of Texas, and a full recognition and proper provision on her part to be made for all the just claims of our citizens against that country, the whole to be adjusted by negotiation, to be instituted and effected according

to the constitutional forms of each Government respectively." --*Johnston and Browne, Life of A. H. Stephens, pp. 205, 211.*

The following extracts mark the sentiments of the Northern Whigs, who accepted Seward as their leader:

. . . General Cass has been presented as the administration candidate. Shall we adopt him? We want peace with all the world, but he is the candidate of the administration which has plunged us into war, and has declared himself in favor of swallowing the whole of Mexico, while the Whigs are opposed to the occupation of any part of her territory. War is the bane of republics, and wars of conquest will inevitably transform them into despotisms. . . .

The party of slavery maintains its military defenses, and cultivates the martial spirit, for it knows not the day nor the hour when a standing army will not be necessary to suppress and extirpate the insurrectionary bondsmen.

The party of freedom cherishes peace, because its sway is sustained by the consent of a happy and grateful people.

The party of slavery fortifies itself by adding new slave-bound domain on fraudulent pretexts and with force.

The party of freedom is content and moderate, seeking only a just enlargement of free territory. . . .

We have reached a new stage in our national career. It is that of territorial aggrandizement. Extended jurisdiction is an element of national strength, if the moral condition of the people be sound, of national weakness, if that condition be unsound. . . .

I want no war. I want no enlargement of territory, sooner than it would come if we were contented with a "masterly inactivity." I abhor war, as I detest slavery. I would not give one human life for all the continent that remains to be *annexed*. But I cannot exclude the conviction, that the popular passion for territorial

aggrandizement is irresistible. Prudence, justice, cowardice, may check it for a season, but it will gain strength by its subjugation. An American navy is hovering over Vera Cruz. An American army is at the heart of what was Mexico. Let the Oregon question be settled when it may, it will, nevertheless, come back again. Our population is destined to roll its resistless waves to the icy barriers of the north, and to encounter oriental civilization on the shores of the Pacific. The monarchs of Europe are to have no rest, while they have a colony remaining on this continent. France has already sold out. Spain has sold out. We shall see how long before England inclines to follow their example. It behooves us, then, to qualify ourselves for our mission. We must dare our destiny. We can do this and can only do it by early measures which shall effect the abolition of slavery, without precipitancy, without oppression, without injustice to slaveholders, without civil war, with the consent of mankind, with the approbation of Heaven. . . . —*Seward, Works, Vol. III., pp. 287, 296, 408, 409.*

Thos. Corwin, of Ohio, in perhaps his most celebrated speech, of Feb. 11, 1847, on the Mexican War, utters the following sentiments in regard to territorial acquisitions:

. . . All I ask of them is, not to require this Government to protect them with that banner consecrated to war waged for principles—eternal, enduring truth. Sir, it is not meet that our old flag should throw its protecting folds over expeditions for lucre or for land. But you still say, you want room for your people.—This has been the plea of every robber-chief from Nimrod to the present hour. I dare say, when Tamerlane descended from his throne built of seventy thousand human skulls, and marched his ferocious battallions to further slaughter, I dare say he said, "I want room." Bajazet was another gentleman of kindred tastes and wants with us Anglo-Saxons—he "wanted room." Alexander, too, the mighty "Macedonian madman,"

when he wandered with his Greeks to the plains of India, and fought a bloody battle on the very ground where recently England and the Sikhs engaged in strife for "room," was no doubt in quest of some California there. . . .

* . . . Sir, there is a very significant appendix; it is this: The descendants of the Greeks of Alexander's Greeks are now governed by a descendant of Attila! Mr. President, while we are fighting for room, let us ponder deeply this appendix . . .

Mr. President, this uneasy desire to augment our territory has depraved the moral sense and blunted the otherwise keen sagacity of our people. What has been the fate of all nations who have acted upon the idea that they must advance? Our young orators cherish this notion with a fervid, but fatally mistaken zeal. They call it by the mysterious name of "destiny." "Our destiny," they say is "onward," and hence they argue, with ready sophistry, the propriety of seizing upon any territory and any people that may lie in the way of our "fated" advance. . . .

Mr. President, if the history of our race has established any truth, it is but a confirmation of what is written, "the way of the transgressor is hard." Inordinate ambition, wantoning in power, and spurning the humble maxims of justice has—ever has—and ever shall end in ruin. Strength cannot always trample upon weakness—the humble shall be exalted, the bowed down will at length be lifted up. It is by faith in the law of strict justice, and the practice of its precepts, that nations alone can be saved. All the annals of the human race, sacred and profane, are written over with this great truth, in characters of living light. It is my fear, my fixed belief, that in this invasion, this war with Mexico, we have forgotten this vital truth. . . .

But, Mr. President, if further acquisition of territory is to be the result either of conquest or treaty, then I scarcely know which should be preferred, external war with Mexico, or the hazards of internal commotion at

home, which last, I fear, may come if another province is to be added to our territory . . . —*Morrow, Life of Thos. Corwin, pp 306, 308, 311, 312*

QUESTIONS

(1) Did President Polk believe the Mexican war just? (2) What reasons did he give? (3) Give names of those who differed from him. (4) What was the relation between annexation and the war with Mexico? (5) Was the war waged for conquest? (6) Do all agree in this view? (7) What law prevails in conquered territory? (8) How can you explain the attitude of Vermont? (9) Give its reasons for approving acquisition of territory? (10) Compare the views of Vermont and Rhode Island. (11) Why did they *instruct* the senators, and only *request* their representatives to vote in a certain way? (12) What new view was presented by Virginia? (13) Explain the reasons for the difference?

(1) Draw a map to show boundary line drawn between the United States and Mexico by the treaty. (2) What was to become of the inhabitants of the conquered territory? (3) What was to be done with the territory annexed? (4) What states and territories now exist made out of this territory?

(1) Outline the points in Webster's speech. (2) What reasons does he give for opposing annexation of territory? (3) What does he think of the position of President Polk? (4) What relation does he imply exists between the departments of government? (5) What effect does he expect annexation of district territory will have on the Constitution? (6) Why might England but not the United States hold colonies? (7) Do his arguments apply to any questions of today? (8) Compare Calhoun's speech with Webster's. (9) Which seems to you the stronger? (10) How do you explain the fact that Calhoun was for Texas annexation and against that of California? (11) Do Webster and Calhoun seriously disagree on any fundamental questions? (12) Explain the reasons for their apparent harmony at this time. (13) How does Stephens differ from Webster? (14) Wherein do they agree? (15) Who stands for the Northern Whigs? (16) What was their position on the war and annexation? (17) How did Seward and Webster differ? (18) Which one has proved the best prophet? (19) Trace the views of Corwin. (20) What peculiar quality in the extracts from his speeches impresses you?

(1) Make an outline to show ideas favoring acquisition of territory. (2) Opposing. (3) Discuss the relative merits of the two views, in the abstract, judged by history. (4) Write an essay on territorial expansion.



CALIFORNIA AND OREGON

Oregon Columbia river discovered by Capt. Gray, 1792. Lewis and Clark explore, 1804-1805. Astoria founded, 1811. Treaty with Great Britain for joint occupancy, 1818. Renewed, 1827. Notice of ending of joint occupancy, 1845. Cry of "54° 40' or fight" raised, 1844-1845. Boundary settled on 49°, 1846. A territory, 1848. A state, 1859.

CHAPTER VIII

CALIFORNIA AND OREGON

In this study extracts which will throw further light on the acquisition of California are continued, and in addition matter is introduced that aids in an understanding of the dispute over the possession of the Oregon country. President Polk's request that \$2,000,000 be set aside for his use in negotiating a treaty of peace with Mexico led to one of the longest and most bitter discussions in all our history. The request was first made in 1846, but the bill failed of passage in the Senate. In 1847 the bill carried \$3,000,000 and was debated for months. Various amendments were proposed, the most famous of which was made by David Wilmot, known in history as the "Wilmot Proviso." Several extracts have been introduced to show the degree of sectional excitement aroused by this Proviso. The main issue as will be seen by a study of the extracts turned on the question of the institutions which should prevail in any territorial acquisitions which might be made. Many men were so impressed with the impossibility of reaching any satisfactory decision that they were anxious that no territory should be acquired. Again it will be noticed that Webster and Calhoun locked horns over the question whether the Constitution extended to the territories or

only to the states. For the first time in our history the power to govern territories was fully and carefully considered. No satisfactory conclusion was found, and after the development of many doctrines—among others "Squatter Sovereignty"—the entire question was temporarily adjourned in the great compromise of 1850. The Oregon controversy was closely connected with the Mexican war. Mexico may have been more aggressive in her course than she otherwise would have been, since she hoped to find an ally in England, due to the difficulty with the United States over the Oregon boundary. But a compromise was made with England, thus leaving Mexico to carry on the contest with the United States by her own means with the well known result of losing a large portion of her territory. This study may well be introduced by extracts from the Message of President Polk who doubtless had a greater part in bringing on the Mexican war than any other one man.

August 8, 1846, President Polk sent the following message to Congress:

I invite your attention to the propriety of making an appropriation to provide for any expenditure which it may be necessary to make in advance for the purpose of settling all our difficulties with the Mexican Republic. It is my sincere desire to terminate, as it was originally to avoid, the existing war with Mexico by a peace just and honorable to both parties. It is probable that the chief obstacle to be surmounted in accomplishing this desirable object will be the adjustment of a boundary between the two Republics which shall prove satisfac-

tory and convenient to both, and such as neither will hereafter be inclined to disturb. In the adjustment of this boundary we ought to pay a fair equivalent for any concessions which may be made by Mexico.

Under these circumstances, and considering the other complicated questions to be settled by negotiation with the Mexican Republic, I deem it important that a sum of money should be placed under the control of the Executive to be advanced, if need be, to the Government of that Republic immediately after their ratification of a treaty. It might be inconvenient for the Mexican Government to wait for the whole sum the payment of which may be stipulated by this treaty until it could be ratified by our Senate and an appropriation be carried into effect made by Congress. Indeed, the necessity for this delay might defeat the object altogether. The disbursement of this money would of course be accounted for, not as secret service money, but like other expenditures.

Two precedents for such a proceeding exist in our past history, during the administration of Mr. Jefferson, to which I would call your attention. On the 26th of February, 1803, an act was passed appropriating \$2,000,000 "for the purpose of defraying any extraordinary expenses which may be incurred in the intercourse between the United States and foreign nations." "To be applied under the direction of the President of the United States, who shall cause an account of the expenditure thereof to be laid before Congress as soon as may be," and on the 13th of February, 1806, an appropriation was made of the same amount and in the same terms. In neither case was the money actually drawn from the treasury, and I should hope that the result in this respect might be similar on the present occasion, although the appropriation may prove to be indispensable in accomplishing the object. I would, therefore, recommend the passage of a law appropriating \$2,000,000 to be placed at the disposal of the Executive for the purpose which I have indicated.

In order to prevent all misapprehension, it is my duty to state that, anxious as I am to terminate the existing war with the least possible delay, it will continue

to be prosecuted with the utmost vigor until a treaty of peace shall be signed by the parties and ratified by the Mexican Republic *Richardson, Messages and Documents, Vol. IV, pp. 459, 460*

Senator Sevier (Ark.) moved this resolution, in conformity to the request in the president's message:

"Be it enacted, etc. That a sum of money not exceeding Three Millions of Dollars, be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, for the purpose of defraying any extraordinary expenses which may be incurred in order to bring the existing war with Mexico to a speedy and honorable conclusion, to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and the same to be applied under the direction of the President of the United States, who shall cause an account of the expenditure thereof to be laid before Congress as soon as may be."

In discussing it he says:

In making peace, of course the United States would expect to receive indemnity, to some extent at least, for the expenses of the war, and they would expect also the payment of the claims held by our citizens against the Republic of Mexico, and this indemnity was expected in the shape of territory. He was not authorized to state precisely what territory this Government would require, but he supposed that no Senator would think that they ought to get less than New Mexico and Upper California. He did not suppose that a treaty of peace with less than this would ever pass that body.

Senator Berrien (Ga.) gave notice that he would move the following amendment at the proper time:

"Provided, always, And it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of Congress in making this appropriation, that the war with Mexico ought not to be prosecuted by this Government with any view to the dismemberment of that Republic, or to the acquisi

tion by conquest of any portion of her territory; that this Government ever desires to maintain and preserve peaceful and friendly relations with all nations, and particularly with the neighboring Republic of Mexico, will always be ready to enter into negotiations, with a view to terminate the present unhappy conflict on terms which shall secure the just rights and preserve inviolate the national honor of the United States and of Mexico—*Benton, Vol. XV, pp. 40, 41, 42*

Mr. Wilmot (a democrat from Pa.) moved the following as an amendment, on August 8, 1846:

Provided, That, as an express and fundamental condition to the acquisition of any territory from the Republic of Mexico by the United States, by virtue of any treaty which may be negotiated between them, and to be used by the executive of moneys herein appropriated, neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall ever exist in any part of said territory, except for crime, whereof the party shall first be duly convicted.—Ibid, Vol. XV, p. 646.

Mr. Morehead discussed the plan of acquisition of territory and its results as follows:

. . . What else do you acquire? You will have acquired a large number of the population of Mexico, an ignorant, a fanatic, a disorderly people—a population having none of the elements of character in common with the people of this country—a population sprung from a different origin having none of the blood of the Anglo-Saxons running in their veins—a people differing from you in origin, in character, in feeling, and in principles—having nothing in common with you. What are you to do with them? Are you to govern them as you do your slaves in those States which now tolerate the institution of slavery? Are you to treat them as serfs belonging to the land which you acquire, as attached to the soil? Or will you put them on a level with the people of this country? Will you give them the privileges which your people enjoy, and en-

able them to regulate and control the destinies of the Government? Will you elevate them to the character of citizens of the United States, though it is now universally believed that the people of Mexico are entirely destitute of the capacity of self government.—*Benton, Abridgments, Vol. XVI., p. 54.*

Mr. David Wilmot [Penn.] discussed his offered amendment in these words:

Sir, it will be recollected by all present, that at the last session of this Congress, an amendment was moved to a bill of similar character by me, in the form of a proviso, by which slavery should be forever excluded from any territory that might be subsequently acquired by the United States from the Republic of Mexico.

Sir, permit me to say, that upon that occasion that proviso was sustained by a very decided majority of this House. Nay, sir, more, it was sustained, if I mistake not, by a majority of the Republican party on this floor. And I am prepared to show, I think, that the entire South were then willing to acquiesce in what appeared to be, and, so far as the action of this House is concerned, in what was the legislation, will, and declaration of this Union on the subject. It passed in this House. Sir, there were no threats of disunion sounded in our ears. It passed here and it went to the Senate, and it was the judgment of the public, and of many men well informed, that had it not been defeated there for the want of time, it would have passed that body and become the established law of the land.

Yes! no anathemas were fulminated against me then. I was not then denounced as an abolitionist by the correspondence of the "Union," as I have been since, and from which charge I intend to vindicate myself.

What, then, do we ask? Sir, we ask the neutrality of this government on this question of slavery

. . . I stand by every compromise of the Constitution. I adhere to its letter and its spirit. And I would never invade one single right of the South.

. . . But, we are told, California is ours. And all we ask in the North is, that the character of its territory be preserved. It is free; and it is part of the estab-

lished law of nations and all public law that when it shall come into this Union, all laws there existing, not inconsistent with its new allegiance, will remain in force, this fundamental law, which prohibits slavery in California will be in force, this fundamental law which prohibits slavery in New Mexico will be in force. Shall the South invade it? Shall the South make this government an instrument for the violation of its neutrality, and for the establishment of slavery in these territories, in defiance of law? That is the question. There is no question of abolition here, Sir. It is a question whether the South shall be permitted by aggression, by invasion of right, by subduing free territories and planting slavery upon it, to wrest this territory to the accomplishment of its own sectional purposes and schemes?—*Benton, Abridgments, XVI., pp. 55, 56.*

John C. Calhoun [S. C.] said:

We were told, and he was fearful that appearances too well justified the assertion, that all parties in the non slaveholding portion of the Union insisted that they should have the exclusive control of this acquired territory—that such provision should be made as should exclude those who are interested in the institutions of the South from a participation in the advantages to be derived from the application of these institutions to the territory thus acquired.

How, then, do we stand in reference to this territorial question—this public domain of ours? Why, sir, what is it? It is the common property of the States of this Union. They are called "the territories of the United States." And what are the United States but the States united? Sir, these Territories are the property of the States united; held jointly for their common use. And is it consistent with justice, is it consistent with equality, that any portion of the partners, outnumbering another portion, shall oust them of this common property of theirs—shall pass any law which shall proscribe the citizens of other portions of the Union from emigrating with their property to the Territories of the United States? Would that be consistent, can it be

consistent with the idea of a common property, held jointly for the common benefit of all? Would it be so considered in private life?

Resolved, That the Territories of the United States belong to the several States composing this Union, and are held by them as their joint and common property.

Resolved, That Congress, as the joint agent and representative of the States of this Union has no right to make any law, or to do any act, whatsoever, that shall directly, or by its effects, make any discrimination between the States of this Union, by which any of them shall be deprived of its full and equal right in any territory of the United States acquired or to be acquired.

Resolved, That the enactment of any law which should directly, or by its effects deprive the citizens of any of the States of this Union from emigrating, with their property, into any of the territories of the United States, will make such discrimination, and would therefore be a violation of the Constitution and the rights of the States, from which such citizens emigrated, and in derogation of that perfect equality which belongs to them as members of this Union and would tend directly to subvert the Union itself.

Resolved, That it is a fundamental principle in our political creed, that a people, in forming a Constitution, have the unconditional right to form and adopt the government which they may think best calculated to secure their liberty, prosperity, and happiness, and that in conformity there is no other condition imposed by the Federal Constitution on a State, in order to be admitted into this Union except that its Constitution shall be republican and that the imposition of any other by Congress would not only be in violation of the Constitution but in direct conflict with the principle on which our political system rests — *Benton, Abridgments, Vol. XVI, pp. 59, 64, 85, 86*

In his message of December, 1848, President Polk summarizes the results of his administration:

Within less than four years the annexation of Texas to the Union has been consummated, all conflicting title

to the Oregon Territory south of the forty-ninth degree of north latitude, being all that was insisted on by any of my predecessors, has been adjusted, and New Mexico and Upper California have been acquired by treaty. The area of these several Territories, according to a report carefully prepared by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, from the most authentic information in his possession, and which is herewith transmitted, contains one million one hundred and ninety-three thousand and sixty-one square miles, or seven hundred and sixty-three million five hundred and fifty nine thousand and forty acres; while the area of the remaining twenty-nine States, and the territory not yet organized into States east of the Rocky Mountains, contains two million fifty-nine thousand five hundred and thirteen square miles, or thirteen hundred and eighteen million one hundred and twenty-six thousand and fifty-eight acres. These estimates show that the territories recently acquired, and over which our exclusive jurisdiction and dominion have been extended, constitute a country more than half as large as all that which was held by the United States before their acquisition. If Oregon be excluded from the estimate, there will still remain within the limits of Texas, and California, eight hundred and fifty-one thousand five hundred and ninety-eight square miles, or five hundred and forty-five million twelve thousand seven hundred and twenty acres, being an addition equal to more than one-third of all the territory owned by the United States before their acquisition, and, including Oregon, nearly as great an extent of territory as the whole of Europe, Russia only excepted. The Mississippi, so lately the frontier of our country, is now only its center. With the addition of the late acquisitions, the United States are now estimated to be nearly as large as the whole of Europe . . .

But to effect these great results, not only California, but New Mexico, must be brought under the control of regularly organized governments. The existing condition of California, and of that part of New Mexico lying west of the Rio Grande; and without the limits of Texas, imperiously demand that Congress should, at

its present session, organize territorial governments over them. . . .

In organizing governments over these Territories, no duty imposed on Congress by the Constitution requires that they should legislate on the subject of slavery, while their power to do so is not only seriously questioned, but denied by many of the soundest expounders of that instrument. Whether Congress shall legislate or not, the people of the acquired Territories, when assembled in convention to form State Constitutions, will possess the sole and exclusive power to determine for themselves whether slavery shall or shall not exist within their limits. If Congress shall abstain from interfering with the question, the people of these Territories will be left free to adjust it as they may think proper when they apply for admission as States into the Union. No enactment of Congress could restrain the people of any of the sovereign States of the Union, old or new, north or south, slaveholding or non-slaveholding, from determining the character of their own domestic institutions as they may deem wise and proper.

—Benton, *XVI*, pp. 260, 262, 263. Also in *Richardson, Messages*.

February 5, 1849, the legislature of Virginia adopted a series of resolutions. For our purposes the following are the important ones:

"2. *Resolved, unanimously*, That all territory which may be acquired by the arms of the United States, or yielded by treaty with any foreign power, belongs to the several states of this Union, as their joint and common property, in which each and all have equal rights, and that the enactment, by the Federal Government, of any law which should directly, or by its effects, prevent the citizens of any state from emigrating, with their property, of whatever description, into such territory, would make a discrimination unwarranted by and in violation of the compromises of the constitution, and the rights of the states from which such citizens emigrated, and in derogation of that perfect equality that belongs to the several states as members of this

Union, and would tend directly to subvert the Union itself.

"5. *Resolved, unanimously*, That the passage of the above mentioned proviso makes it the duty of every slaveholding state, and of all the citizens thereof, as they value their dearest privileges, their sovereignty, their independence, their rights of property, to take firm, united, and concerted action in this emergency."

—*Benton Abridgments*. XVI, p. 298

Perhaps the most interesting phase of the entire discussion is found in the debate between Calhoun and Webster, February 24, 1849. The salient points are quoted below, yet the entire discussion ought to be read:

WEBSTER . . . Why, sir, the thing is utterly impossible. All the legislation in the world, in this general form, could not accomplish it. . . . Let me say that in this general sense there is no such thing as extending the constitution. The constitution is extended over the United States and over nothing else, and can extend over nothing else. It cannot be extended over anything except over the old states and the new states that shall come in hereafter, when they do come in. There is a want of accuracy of ideas in this respect that is quite remarkable among eminent gentlemen, and especially professional and judicial gentlemen. It seems to be taken for granted that the right of trial by jury, the *habeas corpus*, and every principle designed to protect personal liberty, is extended by force of the constitution itself over every new territory. That proposition cannot be maintained at all. How do you arrive at it by any reasoning or deduction? It can only be arrived at by the loosest of all possible constructions. It is said this must be so, else the right of the *habeas corpus* would be lost. Undoubtedly these rights must be conferred by law before they can be enjoyed in a territory.

Sir, if the Lopes of some gentlemen were realized, and Cuba were to become a possession of the United States by cession, does anybody suppose that the

habeas corpus and the trial by jury would be established in it by the mere act of cession' . . . I do not say that while we sit here to make laws for these territories, we are not bound by every one of those great principles which are intended as general securities for public liberty. But they do not exist in territories until introduced by the authority of Congress . . .

CALHOUN. Then the single question is, does the constitution extend to the territories, or does it not extend to them? Why, the constitution interprets itself. It pronounces itself to be the supreme law of the land.

MR. WEBSTER. What land?

MR. CALHOUN. The land, the territories of the United States are a part of the land. It is the supreme law, not within the limits of the states of this Union merely, but wherever our flag waves wherever our authority goes, the constitution in part goes, not all its provisions certainly, but all its suitable provisions. Why, can we have any authority beyond the constitution? I put the question solemnly to gentlemen, if the constitution does not go there, how are we to have any authority or jurisdiction whatever? Is not congress the creature of the constitution? Does it not hold its existence upon the tenure of the continuance of the constitution; and would it not be annihilated upon the destruction of that instrument, and the consequent dissolution of this confederacy? And shall we, the creature of the constitution pretend that we have any authority beyond the reach of the constitution? . . .

WEBSTER. . . . This would be tantamount to saying that the moment territory is attached to the United States, all the laws of the United States, as well as the Constitution of the United States, become the governing will of men's conduct and of the rights of property, because they are declared to be the law of the land--the laws of Congress being the supreme law, as well as the Constitution of the United States. . . .

CALHOUN. . . . How does Congress get any power over the territories?

WEBSTER. It is granted in the Constitution in so

many words; the power to make laws for the government of the territories.

CALHOUN: Well, then, the proposition that the Constitution does not extend to the Territories is false to that extent. How else does Congress obtain the legislative power over the Territories? And yet the honorable Senator says I assign no reason for it. I assign the strongest reason. If the Constitution does not extend there, you have no right to legislate or to do any act in reference to the Territories. . . . *Benton, Abridgment, XVI., pp. 308, 309, 310, 311.*

OREGON.

The first agreement in regard to the respective claims of Great Britain and the United States to the Oregon country was made in 1818; article three reads as follows:

ARTICLE III. It is agreed that any country that may be claimed by either party on the northwest coast of America, westward of the Stony Mountains, shall, together with its harbours, bays, and creeks, and the navigation of all rivers within the same, be free and open for the term of ten years from the date of the signature of the present convention to the vessels, citizens, and subjects of the two Powers; it being well understood that this agreement is not to be construed to the prejudice of any claim which either of the two high contracting parties may have to any part of the said country, nor shall it be taken to affect the claims of any other Power or State to any part of the said country, the only object of the high contracting parties, in that respect, being to prevent disputes and differences among themselves. . . . *United States Statutes at Large, 1813, Public Treaties.*

In 1827 a treaty was made between the two countries, in the following sections:

The United States of America and His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, being equally desirous to prevent, as far as

possible, all hazard of misunderstanding between the two nations, with respect to the territory on the north-west coast of America, west of the Stoney or Rocky Mountains, after the expiration of the third article of the convention concluded between them on the twentieth of October, 1818, and also with a view to give further time for maturing measures which shall have for their object a more definite settlement of the claims of each party to the said territory, have respectively named their Plenipotentiaries to treat and agree concerning a temporary renewal of the said article, that is to say. . . .

[The plenipotentiaries] who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found to be in due and proper form, have agreed upon and concluded the following articles

ARTICLE I. All the provisions of the third article of the convention concluded between the United States of America and His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland on the twentieth of October, 1818, shall be, and they are hereby, further indefinitely extended and continued in force, in the same manner as if all the provisions of the said article were herein specifically recited.

ARTICLE II. It shall be competent, however, to either of the contracting parties, in case either should think fit, at any time after the twentieth of October, 1828, on giving due notice of twelve months to the other contracting party, to annul and abrogate this convention, and it shall, in such case, be accordingly entirely annulled and abrogated, after the expiration of the said term of notice —*Ibid*, pp 310, 311.

The joint occupancy above noted was terminated by the following joint resolution of Congress in 1846:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
That, the President of the United States cause notice to be given to the Government of Great Britain that the convention between the United States of America and

Great Britain, concerning the territory on the north-west coast of America, west of the Stoney or Rocky Mountains, of the sixth day of August, Eighteen Hundred and Twenty seven, signed at London, shall be annulled and abrogated twelve months after giving said notice.

Resolved, That nothing herein contained is intended to interfere with the right and discretion of the proper authorities of the two contracting parties to renew or pursue negotiations for an amicable settlement of the controversy respecting the Oregon territory.—*Benton, Abridgment of Debates of Congress, Vol. XV., p 371*

President Polk's Message, Dec. 2, 1845, uses the following words:

All attempts at compromise having failed, it becomes the duty of Congress to consider what measures it may be proper to adopt for the security and protection of our citizens now inhabiting, or who may hereafter inhabit Oregon, and for the maintenance of our just title to that territory. In adopting measures for this purpose, care should be taken that nothing be done to violate the stipulations of the Convention of 1827, which is still in force. The faith of treaties, in their letter and spirit, has ever been, and, I trust, will ever be, scrupulously observed by the United States. Under that Convention, a year's notice is required to be given by either party to the other, before the joint occupancy shall terminate, and before either can rightfully assert or exercise exclusive jurisdiction over any portion of the territory. This notice it would, in my judgment, be proper to give; and I recommend that provision be made by law for giving it accordingly, and terminating, in this manner, the Convention of the sixth of August, 1827. . . .

At the end of the year's notice, should Congress think it proper to make provision for giving that notice, we shall have reached a period when the national rights in Oregon must either be abandoned or firmly maintained. That they cannot be abandoned without a sacrifice of both national honor and interest, is too clear to admit of doubt.

Oregon is a part of the North American continent, to which it is confidently affirmed, the title of the United States is the best now in existence. For the grounds on which that title rests, I refer you to the correspondence of the late and present Secretary of State with the British Plenipotentiary during the negotiations.

The British proposition of compromise, which would make the Columbia the line south of forty-nine degrees, with a trifling addition of detached territory to the United States, north of that river, and would leave on the British side two-thirds of the whole Oregon territory, including the free navigation of the Columbia and all the valuable harbors on the Pacific, can never, for a moment, be entertained by the United States, without an abandonment of their just and clear territorial rights, their own self respect, and the national honor. For the information of Congress, I communicate herewith the correspondence which took place between the two governments during the late negotiation. . . .
—*Benton, Abridgment, XV, pp. 250, 251.*

Mr. Cass [Mich.], in discussing this subject, Dec. 15, 1845, says, in part:

. . . It was impossible to peruse the President's Message and to observe the indications of public sentiment which are crowding upon us from every quarter without being aware that a crisis is fast approaching in the intercourse between this country and Great Britain, which demands the serious consideration, and may require the cordial and active co-operation, of the whole American people. The President has told us that the negotiations respecting Oregon, if they have not reached a close, have, at any rate, reached a position almost equivalent to it. The claims of the respective nations are utterly irreconcilable; . . .

I did not rise, Sir, as will be seen, to discuss in whole or in part the question of our right to Oregon. . . . But I am sure there is no great party, and I trust there are few individuals in this country, who are prepared, even in an extreme spirit of compromise, to accept the most liberal offer that England has yet made. Her pretensions and ours are so widely separated, that there

seems no middle ground on which to meet. Our most moderate claim, and her most liberal offer, leave the parties asunder by seven degrees of latitude and by a large portion of the territory in question. What, then, is our condition? Can we recede? Can we stand still, or must we advance?

As to receding, it is neither to be discussed nor thought of. I refer to it but to denounce it—a denunciation which will find a response in every American bosom. Nothing is ever gained by national pusillanimity. And the country which seeks to purchase temporary security by yielding to unjust pretensions, buys present ease at the expense of permanent honor and safety. It sows the wind to reap the whirlwind. I have said elsewhere, what I will repeat here, that it is better to fight for the first inch of national territory than for the last.

If we cannot recede, can we stand still? No Mr. President; in this as in all the other elements of national power and greatness, our duty and our destiny are onward. We might as well attempt to stay the waves of the Pacific, as to stay the tide of emigration which is setting towards its shores. If this Government had the disposition, it has not the power to arrest this human current. But it has neither—the power nor the disposition to do it. There are questions of public right, which may rest in abeyance—which are not called into daily exercise, and need be asserted only when required. But such is not the right by which we hold Oregon.

If, then, Mr. President, we can neither retrace our steps nor check them, we must go onward. And England has placed herself in the path that is before us; and if she retain her position, we must meet her. If the last proposition she has submitted is her ultimatum, it is effectively a declaration of war. Its advent may be delayed a few months, but as soon as the notice expires, if she persists, as she will do, in her occupation of the country, the struggle must commence. It is not the notice which is a belligerent measure, for that is a treaty right, but it is the subsequent and immediate course the parties will probably pursue that must lead

to war. I hope—or I ought rather to say I wish—that England would awaken to a sense of her injustice and would yield where she could yield honorably and ought to yield rightfully. But will she do so? It is safest to believe she will not, and this dictate of prudence is fortified by every page of her history. When did she voluntarily surrender a territory she had once acquired, or abandon a pretention she had once advanced?—*Benton, Abridgments, XV., pp. 271, 272, 273*

Mr. Hannegan [Ind.] called up the following resolutions submitted by him yesterday, (Dec. 30, 1845):

1. *Resolved*, That the country included between the parallels of 42° and 54° 40' north latitude, and extending from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, known as the Territory of Oregon, is the property, and part and parcel of the territories of the United States.

2. *Resolved*, That there exists no power in this Government to transfer its soil and the allegiance of its citizens to the dominion, authority, control, and subjection of any foreign power, prince, state, or sovereignty.

3. *Resolved*, That the abandonment or surrender of any portion of the Territory of Oregon would be an abandonment of the honor, character and the best interests of the American people. *Benton, XV., p. 300*

Mr. Calhoun moved to strike out the above resolutions and insert—

Resolved, That, however clear their claims may be in their opinion to the country included within the parallels of 42° and 54° 40' north latitude, and extending from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, known as the territory of Oregon, there now exists, and have long existed, conflicting claims to the possession of the same between them and Great Britain, the adjustment of which has been frequently the subject of negotiation between the respective Governments

Resolved, therefore, That the President of the United States has rightfully the power under the Constitution,

by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, provided that two-thirds of the members present concur, to adjust by treaty the claims of the two countries to the said territory, by fixing a boundary between their respective possessions.

Resolved. That the President of the United States, in renewing the offer in the spirit of peace and compromise, to establish the 49th degree of north latitude as a line between the possessions of the two countries, to the said territory, did not "abandon the honor, the character, or the best interests of the American people," or exceed the power vested in him by the Constitution to make treaties.—*Benton, XV., p. 301.*

Mr. Hilliard [Mass.] says:

But Mr. H. had some facts to illustrate the value of Oregon to us, which he deemed of the first moment. England and the United States were the only competitors for the trade of Southern China; . . .

. . . In this gainful traffic, England regarded us as a rival Power, and she was by no means disposed to give it up. The coast of Oregon fronted that of China, and presented great facilities for carrying on this important branch of our commerce. Fully to avail ourselves, however, of these advantages, we ought to connect Oregon with the State of Missouri by the construction of a railroad. This was not so wild and visionary a scheme as at the first view some gentlemen might be disposed to consider it. . . .

With a route so short and so direct as this, might we not reasonably hope, in a great measure, to command both the trade and the travel of the world? Engrafted on this plan, and as its natural adjunct, was the extension of a magnetic telegraph, which should follow the course of the road, unite the two, and where was the imagination that could grasp the consequences.—*Benton, XV., pp. 313, 314*

Stephen A. Douglas [Ill.] discusses the question as follows:

. . . But I choose to be frank and candid in the declaration of my sentiments on this question. For

one, I never will be satisfied with the valley of the Columbia, nor with 42° , nor with $54^{\circ} 40'$, nor will I be, while Great Britain shall hold possession of one acre on the northwest coast of America. And, Sir, I will never agree to any arrangement that shall recognize her right to one inch of soil upon the northwest coast; and for this simple reason: Great Britain never did own, she never did have a valid title to one inch of that country. The question was only one of dispute between Russia, Spain, and the United States. England never had title to any part of the country. Our government has always held that England had no title to it. In 1826, Mr. Clay, in his despatches to Mr. Gallatin, said: "It is not conceived that the British government can make out even a colorable title to any part of the northwest coast." *Benton, XV., p. 352*

Benton [Mo.] takes this position:

The President has declined the offer of arbitration made by Great Britain. I think he did right to do so. The interest at stake is too large for that species of settlement. Territorial rights to a country large enough for a great kingdom is not a subject for individual arbitrament, whether of crowned heads, or of citizens or subjects. Small matters may be referred. Things not worth a contest may be referred. But an empire of territory, with great rivers and harbors, contiguous to, and indispensable to, one of the parties, holding a claim for fifty years, which it feels to be valid, is not a matter for arbitration. *I id., p. 390.*

Daniel Webster says, in part:

. . . There is nothing in his recommendations to the other House, nor to this, indicative of such an expectation [war]. There is nothing of preparation for defense indicating that the President expects war. Well, then, he can expect nothing but a continuance of this dispute or its settlement by negotiation. I am bound to suppose that he expects its settlement by negotiation. What terms of negotiation? What basis of negotiation? What grounds of negotiation? Everything that we hear from the Executive Department is

"The whole or none;" and yet negotiation! Sir, it is in vain to conceal from ourselves, from the country, or from the world, the gross inconsistency of this course of conduct . . . —*Ibid*, pp- 397, 398.

Extract from the Democratic platform of 1844:

"*Resolved*, That our title to the whole of the Territory of Oregon is clear and unquestionable, that no portion of the same ought to be ceded to England or any other power, and that the re-occupation of Oregon, and the re-annexation of Texas at the earliest practicable period, are great American measures, which the Convention recommends to the cordial support of the Democracy of the Union."—*Cited in Benton, XV., p, 413.*

The final settlement is indicated in these extracts from the treaty with Great Britain of 1846:

The United States of America and Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, deeming it to be desirable for the future welfare of both countries that the state of doubt and uncertainty which has hitherto prevailed respecting the sovereignty and government of the territory on the northwest coast of America, lying westward of the Rocky or Stoney Mountains, should be finally terminated by an amicable compromise of the rights mutually asserted by the two parties over the said territory, having respectively named Plenipotentiaries to treat and agree concerning the terms of such settlement, that is to say, . . .

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following articles:

ARTICLE I. . From the point on the forty ninth parallel of north latitude, where the boundary laid down in existing treaties and conventions between the United States and Great Britain terminates, the line of boundary between the territories of the United States and

those of Her Britannic Majesty shall be continued westward along the said forty-ninth parallel of north latitude to the middle of the channel which separates the continent from Vancouver's Island, and thence southerly through the middle of the said channel, and of Fuca's Straits, to the Pacific Ocean. Provided, however, that the navigation of the whole of the said channel and straits, south of the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude, remain free and open to both parties.—*Treaties, 1873, p. 320.*

QUESTIONS.

1. For what purpose did President Polk request Congress to make an appropriation of \$2,000,000? 2. What precedents did he cite? 3. What statement does he make in regard to the continuance of the war? 4. Can you decide from the text why he thought peace might not be able to be made without the \$2,000,000? 5. Where Senator Sevier talks about an indemnity, what does he mean? 6. What amendment did Senator Berrien suggest? 7. Why did he offer such an amendment? 8. Cite the Wilmot amendment. 9. How would you expect the slave holding states to feel in regard to such an amendment? 10. What reasons are given against the acquisition of territory? 11. What reasons in favor?

1. What plans for governing the acquired territory were suggested? 2. Have any of the questions come up for discussion in our own day? 3. How did Wilmot feel in regard to his proviso? 4. What charges evidently were being made against him by his party colleagues? 5. What claim did he make in regard to their position in 1846?

1. What constitutional position does Calhoun take in regard to rights in the acquired territory? 2. On what theory of the nature of the Union were his resolutions based? 3. What rights had each state in regard to its constitution? 4. What territory was gained between 1845 and 1849? 5. What claim does President Polk make in regard to its importance? 6. How did slavery enter this discussion? 7. What view did the legislature of Virginia take in regard to the "Wilmot Proviso"? 8. State the respective views of Webster and Calhoun in regard to what territory the constitution extended over. 9. What view is now accepted? 10. Do all today agree? 11. How is the same question now being discussed?

1. Who claimed the Oregon country? 2. What was the region included in Oregon? 3. How was the dis-

pute at first settled? 4. What offers of compromise had been made? 5. What section of the Union was most insistent on "all Oregon?" 6. What party pronounced for "all Oregon?" 7. What party in power when the compromise was made? 8. What do you understand by joint occupancy? 9. When was this joint occupancy terminated? 10. State the views of Mr. Cass. 11. How did Mr. Calhoun feel in regard to war with England? 12. Arguments used in favor of getting Oregon. 13. Arguments for compromise. 14. Position of Douglas. 15. What absurdity in Polk's position did Webster show? 16. State the final settlement of the whole question. 17. Write the history of the acquisition of California, etc. 18. Write an account of the struggle for Oregon.

ALASKA AND HAWAII

Alaska discovered, 1728. Southern boundary fixed at 54° 40', 1823-1824. Suggested purchase, 1859. Purchased, 1867. Area (est.), 577,390 square miles. Cost, \$7,200,000 gold.

Hawaii. Area, 6,040 square miles. Various movements for annexation, 1850 on. Reciprocity treaty, 1875. Treaty annexation, 1892, withdrawn, 1893. Treaty annexation, 1898. Annexed by joint resolution, 1898.

CHAPTER IX

ALASKA AND HAWAII

In our previous studies we have had to deal with the acquisition of adjacent territory, and in the main with territory in which there were few or no inhabitants, except Indians. The Constitution had expressly given Congress authority to deal with the Indian tribes, hence their existence had not introduced any new element into the problem of government. In the acquisition of Alaska, the United States, for the first time in its history, annexed non-adjacent territory. With the resolution incorporating Hawaii into the territorial possessions of the Union, a people as well as a land was added. Even here the extreme had not been reached, for a large portion of the controlling element of the population was either American or spoke the English language. Our next study, "Porto Rico and the Philippines," will introduce us to the extreme limit—non-adjacent territory with a dense population of an entirely different race.

Previous to this annexation we had been acquiring territory in order that it might become the home of American citizens as they moved from frontier to frontier in the westward march of empire. In each case American ideas had been carried by American people into a practi-

cally unsettled wilderness. The new problems, therefore, are so different that our past experience affords us little of value to aid in their solution.

The purchase of Alaska was made without much previous discussion. The idea had been suggested even before the Civil war, but very little attention had been given to it. Even at the time of acquisition very little was known of the region. In general it was regarded as worthless, and the price as a payment made to Russia for her friendliness in the Civil war. On the other hand, as the extracts will in part show, the Hawaiian question had been long discussed, and more than one treaty of annexation had been made, only to fail of ratification. Finally even here a joint resolution was required to secure its annexation in 1898, as it was uncertain whether a two thirds vote could be secured for the treaty in the Senate.

ALASKA.

The following extracts from the treaty of 1867 with Russia, providing for the acquisition of Alaska, give the more essential provisions:

The United States of America and His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, being desirous of strengthening, if possible, the good understanding which exists between them, have, for that purpose, appointed as their plenipotentiaries, the President of the United States, William H Seward, Secretary of State; and His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, the Privy Counsellor, Edward de Stoeckl, his Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the United States;

And the said Plenipotentiaries, having exchanged their full powers, which were found to be in due form, have agreed upon and signed the following articles:

ARTICLE I.

His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias agrees to cede to the United States, by this convention, immediately upon the exchange of the ratifications thereof, all the territory and dominion now possessed by his said Majesty on the said continent of America and in the adjacent islands, the same being contained within the geographical limits herein set forth, to-wit: The eastern limit is the line of demarcation, between the Russian and the British possessions in North America, as established by the convention between Russia and Great Britain, of February 28-16, 1825, and described in Articles III and IV of said convention, in the following terms:

"Commencing from the southernmost point of the island called Prince of Wales Island, which point lies in the parallel of 54 degrees 40 minutes north latitude, and between the 131st and 133d degree of west longitude (meridian of Greenwich), and the said line shall ascend to the north along the channel called Portland Channel, as far as the point of the continent where it strikes the 56th degree of north latitude; from this last-mentioned point the line of demarcation shall follow the summit of the mountains situated parallel to the coast, as far as the point of intersection of the 141st degree of west longitude, (of the same meridian); and finally, from the said point of intersection, the said meridian line of the 141st degree, in its prolongation as far as the Frozen Ocean.

"IV. With reference to the line of demarcation laid down in the preceding article, it is understood—

"1st. That the island called Prince of Wales Island shall belong wholly to Russia," (now by this cession to the United States).

"2d That whenever the summit of the mountains which extend in a direction parallel to the coast from the 56th degree of north latitude to the point of intersection of the 141st degree of west longitude shall prove

to be at the distance of more than ten marine leagues from the ocean, the limit between the British possessions and the one of coast which is to belong to Russia as above mentioned, (that is to say the limit to the possessions ceded by this convention), shall be formed by a line parallel to the winding of the coast, and which shall never exceed the distance of ten marine leagues therefrom."

The western limit within which the territories and dominion conveyed are contained passes through a point in Behring's Straits on the parallel of 65 degrees 30 minutes north latitude, at its intersection, by the meridian which passes midway between the islands of Krusenstern or Ignalook, and the island of Ratmannoff, or Noonarbook, and proceeds due north without limitation, into the same Frozen Ocean. The same western limit, beginning at the same initial point, proceeds thence in a course nearly southwest, through Behring's Straits and Behring's Sea, so as to pass midway between the northwest point of the island of St. Lawrence and the southeast point of Cape Choukotski, to the meridian of 172 degrees west longitude, thence, from the intersection of that meridian, in a southwesterly direction, so as to pass midway between the island of Attou and the Copper Island of the Kormandorski couplet or group, in the North Pacific Ocean, to the meridian of 193 degrees west longitude, so as to include in the territory conveyed the whole of the Aleutian Islands east of that meridian.

ARTICLE III.

The inhabitants of the ceded territory, according to their choice, reserving their natural allegiance, may return to Russia within three years, but if they should prefer to remain in the ceded territory, they, with the exception of uncivilized native tribes, shall be admitted to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages, and immunities of citizens of the United States, and shall be maintained and protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property and religion. The uncivilized tribes will be subject to such laws and regulations as

the United States may from time to time adopt in regard to aboriginal tribes of that country.

ARTICLE VI

In consideration of the cession aforesaid, the United States agrees to pay at the Treasury in Washington, within ten months after the exchange of the ratification of this convention, to the diplomatic representative or other agent of His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, duly authorized to receive the same, seven million two hundred thousand dollars in gold . . . — *United States Statutes at Large, Public Treaties, 1873-75, pp. 671-73.*

History of the Treaty:

April 8th, the treaty was reported by Mr Sumner without amendment, and with the recommendation that the Senate advise and consent thereto. The next day it was considered, when Mr Sumner spoke on the negotiation, its origin, and the character of the ceded possessions. A motion by Mr. Fessenden to postpone its further consideration was voted down Yeas 12, Nays 29. After further debate, the final question of ratification was put and carried on the same day by a vote of Yeas 37, Nays 2 -the Nays being Mr Fessenden, and Mr Morrill, of Vermont. The ratifications were exchanged June 20, and the same day the treaty was proclaimed. *Sumner, Works, Vol. XI, p. 184*

Extracts from Sumner's great speech of April 9, 1867, in favor of the ratification of the Treaty of Purchase:

Turning from the question of title, which time and testimony have already settled, I meet the inquiry, Why does Russia part with possessions associated with the reign of her greatest ruler and filling an important chapter of geographical history? Here I am without information not open to others. But I do not forget that the first Napoleon in parting with Louisiana, was controlled by three several considerations. First, he needed the purchase money for his treasury; secondly,

he was unwilling to leave this distant unguarded territory a prey to Great Britain, in the event of hostilities, which seemed at hand, and, thirdly, he was glad, according to his own remarkable language, "to establish forever the power of the United States, and give to England a maritime rival that would sooner or later humble her pride." Such is the record of history. Perhaps a similar record may be made hereafter with regard to the present cession. . . .

Besides, I cannot doubt that her enlightened Emperor, who has given pledges to civilization by an unsurpassed act of emancipation, would join the first Napoleon in a desire to enhance the maritime power of the United States.

I am not able to say when the idea of this cession first took shape. I have heard that it was as long ago as the administration of Mr. Polk. It is within my knowledge that the Russian Government was sounded on the subject during the Administration of Mr. Buchanan.

This was done through Mr. Gwin, at the time Senator of California, and Mr. Appleton, Assistant Secretary of State. For this purpose the former had more than one interview with the Russian minister at Washington, some time in December, 1859, in which, while professing to speak for the President unofficially, he represented that "Russia was too far off to make the most of these possessions, and that, as we were near, we could derive more from them." In reply to an inquiry of the Russian minister, Mr. Gwin said that "the United States could go as high as \$5,000,000 for the purchase," on which the former made no comment.

"Your memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of Washington Territory, beg leave to show that abundance of codfish, halibut, and salmon, of excellent quality, have been found along the shores of the Russian possessions. Your memorialists respectfully request your Excellency to obtain such rights and privileges of the Government of Russia as will enable our fishing vessels to visit the ports and harbors of its possessions,

to the end that fuel, water, and provisions may be easily obtained, that our sick and disabled fishermen may obtain sanitary assistance, together with the privilege of curing fish and repairing vessels in need of repairs.

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This memorial, on presentation to the President, in February, 1866, was referred to the Secretary of State, by whom it was communicated to Mr. de Stoeckl, the Russian minister, with remarks on the importance of some early and comprehensive arrangement between the two powers to prevent the growth of difficulties, especially from fisheries in that region

.

"There is at the present time a good chance to organize a fur trading company, to trade between the United States and the Russian possessions in America

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Meanwhile, in October, 1866, Mr. de Stoeckl, who had long been the Russian minister at Washington, and enjoyed in a high degree the confidence of our Government, returned home on leave of absence, promising his best exertions to promote good relations between the two countries. While he was at St. Petersburg, the applications from the United States were under consideration, but the Russian government was disinclined to any minor arrangement of the character proposed. Obviously something like a crisis was at hand with regard to these possessions. The existing government was not adequate. The franchises granted there were about to terminate. Something must be done. As Mr. de Stoeckl was leaving for his post, in February, the Arch Duke Constantine, brother and chief adviser of the Emperor, handed him a map with the lines in our treaty marked upon it, and told him he might treat for cession with those boundaries. The minister arrived in Washington early in March. A negotiation was opened at once. Final instructions were received by the Atlantic cable from St. Petersburg, on the twenty ninth of March, and at four o'clock on the morning of the thirtieth of March, this important treaty

was signed by Mr. Seward on the part of the United States and by Mr. de Stoeckl on the part of Russia.

. . . but there are other matters of a more general character which present themselves at this stage and challenge judgment. These concern nothing less than the unity, power, and grandeur of the Republic, with the extension of its dominion and its institutions. . . .

1. *Advantages to the Pacific Coast.* Foremost in order, if not in importance, I put the desires of our fellow citizens on the Pacific coast, and the special advantages they will derive from this enlargement of boundaries. They were the first to ask for it, and will be the first to profit by it.

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The advantages to the Pacific coast have two aspects—one Domestic, and the other Foreign. Not only does the treaty extend the coasting trade of California, Oregon, and Washington Territory, northward, but it also extends the base of Commerce with China and Japan.

To unite the East of Asia with the West of America is the aspiration of commerce now as when the English navigator recorded his voyage. . . .

2. *Extension of Dominion.*—The extension of dominion is another consideration calculated to captivate the public mind. Few are so cold or philosophical as to regard with insensibility a widening of the bounds of country. Wars have been regarded as successful, when they have given a new territory. The discoverer who had planted the flag of his sovereign on a distant coast, has been received as a conqueror.

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The passion for acquisition, so strong in the individual, is not less strong in the community. A nation seeks an outlying territory, as an individual seeks an outlying farm. . . . It is common to the human family. There are few anywhere who could hear of a considerable accession of territory, obtained peacefully and honestly, without a pride of country, even if at certain moments the judgment hesitated. With increased size on the map, there is increased consciousness of strength, and the heart of the citizen throbs anew as he traces the extending line.

3 *Extension of Republican Institutions.*—More than the extension of dominion is the extension of republican institutions, which is a traditional aspiration. It was in this spirit that Independence was achieved. In the name of Human Rights our fathers overthrew the kingly power, whose representative was George the Third.

By the text of our Constitution, the United States are bound to guarantee "a republican form of government" to every State in the Union, but this obligation, which is applicable only at home, is an unquestionable indication of the national aspiration everywhere. The Republic is something more than a local policy; it is a general principle, not to be forgotten at any time, especially when the opportunity is presented of bringing an immense region within its influence.

The present treaty is a visible step in the occupation of the whole North American continent. As such it will be recognized by the world and accepted by the American people. But the treaty involves something more. We dismiss one other monarch from the continent. One by one they have retired—first France, then Spain, then France again, and now Russia—all giving way to the absorbing unity declared in the national motto, *E pluribus unum*.

4. *Anticipation of Great Britain.*—Another motive to this acquisition may be found in the desire to anticipate imagined schemes or necessities of Great Britain. With regard to all these I confess doubt; and yet, if we credit report, it would seem as if there were already a British movement in this direction. Sometimes it is said that Great Britain desires to buy, if Russia will sell.

5. *Amity of Russia.* There is still another consideration concerning this treaty not to be disregarded. It attests and assures the amity of Russia.

There is one other point on which I file my caveat. This treaty must not be a precedent for a system of indiscriminate and costly annexation. Sincerely

believing that republican institutions under the primacy of the United States must embrace this whole continent, I cannot adopt the sentiment of Jefferson, who, while confessing satisfaction in settlements on the Pacific coast, saw there in the future nothing but "free and independent Americans," bound to the United States only by "ties of blood and interest," without political unity - or of Webster, who in the same spirit said of settlers there, "They will raise a standard for themselves, and they ought to do it." Nor am I willing to restrict myself to the principle so tersely expressed by Andrew Jackson, in his letter to President Monroe: "Concentrate our population, confine our frontier to proper limits, until our country, to those limits, is filled with a dense population." But I cannot disguise my anxiety that every stage in our predestined future shall be by natural processes, without war, and I would add even without purchase. There is no territorial aggrandizement worth the price of blood. Only under peculiar circumstances can it become the subject of pecuniary contract. Our triumph should be by growth and organic expansion in obedience to "pre-established harmony," recognizing always the will of those who are to become our fellow citizens. And this must be easy, if we are only true to ourselves. Our motto may be that of Goethe: "Without haste, without rest." Let the Republic be assured in tranquil liberty, with all equal before the law, and it will conquer by its sublime example. . . .

. . . Meanwhile, our first care should be to improve and elevate the Republic, whose sway will be so comprehensive. Plant it with schools, cover it with churches; fill it with libraries; make it abundant with comfort, so that poverty shall disappear; keep it constant in the assertion of Human Rights. And here we may fitly recall those words of Antiquity, which Cicero quoted from the Greek, and Webster in our day quoted from Cicero: "You have a Sparta; adorn it."

2. *Population*.—I come now to the population. . . Prof. Agassiz touches this point in a letter which I have

just received from him, where he says: "To me the fact that there is as yet hardly any population would have great weight, as this secures the settlement to our race" . . . —*Sumner, Works, Vol. XI, pp. 200, 201, 203, 205, 206, 207, 209, 216, 218, 219, 221, 222, 223, 228, 232, 233, 234, 261.*

The opposition views find expression in the following extracts:

MR. FERREISS [N. Y.]: The people of this country do not want these Russian possessions. If submitted to them they would reject the treaty by a majority of millions. Alaska, with the Aleutian Islands, is an inhospitable, wretched and God-forsaken region, worth nothing, but a positive injury and incumbrance as a colony of the United States.

MR. WASHBURN [Wis.]: The country is absolutely without value. . . . I tell gentlemen who go for Alaska that Greenland to day is a better purchase than Alaska.

MR. PRICE [Iowa]: Now that we have got it and cannot give it away or lose it, I hope we will keep it under military rule and get along with as little expense as possible. It is a dead loss to us anyway, and the more expense we incur the worse it is for the country and the people.

MR. B. F. BUTLER [Mass.]. If we are to pay for her (Russia's) friendship this amount, I desire to give her the \$7,200,000 and let her keep Alaska. . . . I have no doubt that anytime within the last twenty years we could have had Alaska for the asking. I have heard it was so stated in the Cabinets of two Presidents, provided we would have taken it as a gift. But no man, except one insane enough to buy the earthquakes in St. Thomas and the ice fields in Greenland, could be found to agree to any other terms for its acquisition to the country.

MR. LOAN [Mo]. The acquisition of this inhospitable and barren waste would never add one dollar to the wealth of our country or furnish homes to our people. To suppose that anyone would willingly leave the mild climate and fruitful soil of the United States, with its newspapers and churches, its railroads and commerce, its civilization and refinement, to seek a home among the Aleuts, . . . is simply to suppose such person insane.

MR. WILLIAMS [Pa]: Have the people desired it? (The purchase of Alaska.) Not a sensible man among them had ever suggested it. The whole country exclaimed at once, when it was made known to it, against the ineffable folly, if not the wanton profligacy, of the whole transaction. There is no man here, I think, who would have advised it. I doubt whether there are twenty in this House who would be willing to vote for it now, but for the single reason that the contract has been made.

MR. WASHBURN [Ill]: The accounts which we receive from that Territory, of the sickness and suffering of the people who are sent there show conclusively that it will never be inhabited to any considerable extent by white men.

MR. FERRISS [N. Y]: That the President be authorized to bind the United States by treaty to pay the sum of \$7,200,000 to any respectable European, Asiatic, or African power which will agree to accept a cession of the Territory of Alaska. —Cited in *Hermann, The Louisiana Purchase*, pp. 52, 53.

HAWAII.

The first treaty between the United States and the Sandwich Islands was made Dec. 23, 1826. The first article reads:

ARTICLE I. The peace and friendship subsisting between the United States and their Majesties

Regent and Kauikeaouli, King of the Sandwich Islands, and their subjects and people, are hereby confirmed and declared to be perpetual. *House, Executive Documents, 1893-94, Vol. XXVII., p. 276.*

Dec. 19, 1842, Daniel Webster, Secretary of State, wrote:

The advantages of your country to the navigators in the Pacific, and in particular to the numerous vessels and vast tonnage of the United States frequenting that sea, are fully estimated, and just acknowledgements are due to the Government and inhabitants of the islands for their numerous acts of hospitality to the citizens of the United States.

The United States have regarded the existing authorities in the Sandwich Islands as a Government suited to the condition of the people, and resting on their own choice; and the President is of opinion that the interests of all commercial nations require that that Government should not be interfered with by foreign powers. Of the vessels which visit the islands, it is known that a great majority belong to the United States. The United States, therefore, are more interested in the fate of the islands, and of their government, than any other nation can be; and this consideration induces the President to be quite willing to declare, as the sense of the Government of the United States, that the Government of the Sandwich Islands ought to be respected; that no power ought either to take possession of the islands as a conquest, or for the purpose of colonization, and that no power ought to seek for any undue control over the existing Government, or any exclusive privileges or preferences in matters of commerce.—*Ibid, p. 285.*

King Kamehameha to President Tyler, 1843:

Relying on the magnanimity and firmness of the United States, we appeal to the President to interpose the high influence of the United States with the court of England to grant us an impartial hearing and procure us justice, to induce Her British Majesty to withdraw from the sovereignty of these islands and leave

us as we have been—an *independent government supported in our right*

We look to the United States with peculiar feelings of respect and gratitude. To the benevolence and enterprise of that great people we owe the introduction of the Christian religion, of civilization and laws of commerce and agriculture, and the large and respectable number of our foreign residents. *Ibid.* pp. 295-296

Mr. Severance wrote, 1851, to Webster, Secretary of State, concerning conditions at Honolulu, in part, as follows:

. . . What will follow we can not tell, but in case of another hostile attack from the French, the King, with the approbation of his chiefs, and I believe nearly all the principal officers of the Government, have it in contemplation to take down the Hawaiian flag and run up that of the United States. They contemplate annexation to our Republic, and have already consulted me about it. . . . *Ibid.* p. 330

Webster replied:

. . . The annunciation of this policy will not surprise the governments of Europe, nor be thought to be unreasonable by the nations of the civilized world, and that policy is that while the Government of the United States, itself faithful to its original assurance, scrupulously regards the independence of the Hawaiian Islands, it can never consent to see those islands taken possession of by either of the great commercial powers of Europe, nor can it consent that demands, manifestly unjust and derogatory and inconsistent with a bona fide independence, shall be enforced against that Government.—*Ibid.* p. 341

Mr. Marcy, Secretary of State, gave the following instructions to Mr. Gregg, American Minister to Hawaii, 1854:

. . . You were informed that it was not the policy of the United States to accelerate such a change; but if,

in the course of events, it became unavoidable, this Government would much prefer to acquire the sovereignty of these islands for the United States, rather than to see it transferred to any other power. . . .

If you should succeed in making a treaty, transferring the islands to the United States, it is advisable that it should receive the ratification of the Hawaiian Government before it is sent here for the consideration of the President and the Senate. *Ibid.*, pp. 362-3.

Mr. Gregg replied:

I have succeeded in arranging the terms of a treaty of annexation with the minister of foreign relations, which meets the approval of the Crown Prince and cabinet. But it is not yet signed, and I am unable to give you any assurance that it will be immediately completed. The pretense of delay is the supposed necessity of consulting the King, which for some time has been impossible on account of His Majesty's illness. —*Ibid.*, p. 365.

Extracts from the first treaty of annexation; owing to the sudden death of the King it was never signed:

ARTICLE I.

His Majesty the King of the Hawaiian Islands, acting in conformity with the power vested in him by the constitution of his Kingdom, and with the wishes of his chiefs and people and of the heads of every Department of his government, cedes to the United States his Kingdom, with all its territory, to be held by them in full sovereignty subject only to the same constitutional provisions as the other States of the American Union.

ARTICLE II

The Kingdom of the Hawaiian Islands shall be incorporated into the American Union as a State, enjoying the same degree of sovereignty as other States, and admitted as such as soon as it can be done in consistency with the principles and requirements of the Federal Constitution, to all the rights, privileges and

immunities of a State, as aforesaid, on a perfect equality with the other States of the Union

ARTICLE III

His Majesty the King of the Hawaiian Islands, his chiefs and subjects of every class, shall continue in the enjoyment of all their existing personal and private rights—civil, political, and religious—to the utmost extent that is possible under the Federal Constitution and shall possess and forever enjoy all the rights and privileges of citizens of the United States, on terms of perfect equality, in all respects, with other American citizens—*Ibid.*, p. 368

How the above treaty was received in the United States will be seen in this extract:

The draft of a treaty you have forwarded to the Department has been considered by the President, and he directs me to say that he cannot approve of some of the articles. If ratified in its present shape at Honolulu and sent hither, he would not, probably, submit it to the Senate. There are in his mind strong objections to the immediate incorporation of the islands in their present condition into the Union as an independent State. It was expected that the Hawaiian Government would be willing to offer the islands to the United States as a territory, and to leave the question in relation to their becoming a State to the determination of this Government, unembarrassed by stipulations on that point. *Ibid.*, p. 374

Edward McCook, American Minister, wrote to Secretary Seward, June 7, 1867, as follows:

The spirit of this whole people is heartily republican and thoroughly American. The King, his half-dozen half-civilized nobles, as many cabinet ministers, and the Lord Bishop of Honolulu (Staley), constitute the entire aristocratic element of the country, either in fact or in feeling. And when this dynasty ends, as end it will probably within the next year, I am sure that if the American government indicates the slightest desire to test in these islands the last Napoleonic conception

in the way of territorial extension you will find the people here with great unanimity "demanding by votes, freely expressed, annexation to" the United States *Ibid*, p 380

Seward replied:

SIR. Circumstances have transpired here which induce a belief that a strong interest based upon a desire for annexation of the Sandwich Islands, will be active in opposing a ratification of the reciprocity treaty. It will be argued that the reciprocity will tend to hinder and defeat an early annexation, to which the people of the Sandwich Islands are supposed to be now strongly inclined. Under these circumstances, I have, first, to advise that you remain at Honolulu instead of coming to the United States, as you have before proposed.

Second You will be governed in all your proceedings by a proper respect and courtesy to the Government and people of the Sandwich Islands, but it is proper that you should know, for your own information, that a lawful and peaceful annexation of the islands to the United States, with the consent of the people of the Sandwich Islands is deemed desirable by this Government, and that if the policy of annexation should really conflict with the policy of reciprocity, annexation is in every case to be preferred—*Ibid*, p. 384.

President Johnson, in annual message, Dec. 8, 1868:

The attention of the Senate and of Congress is again respectfully invited to the treaty for the establishment of commercial reciprocity with the Hawaiian Kingdom, entered into last year, and already ratified by that Government

A reciprocity treaty, while it could not materially diminish the revenue of the United States, would be a guaranty of the good will and forbearance of all nations until the people of the islands shall of themselves, at no distant day, voluntarily apply for admission into the Union.—*Ibid*, p 387.

Minister H. A. Peirce to Hamilton Fish,
Secretary of State, Feb. 17, 1873:

SIR Annexation of these islands to the United States and a reciprocity treaty between the two countries are the two important topics of conversation and warm discussion among Government officials and foreign residents

A large majority of the latter favor the first-named project, while the former advocate reciprocity. All are convinced, however, that some measure should be taken by the Hawaiian Government to effectually stay the decline in the prosperity of the country, evidenced in decreasing exports, revenue, population, whale fishery, and an increasing public debt.

Annexation of the islands to the United States will never, in my opinion, be adopted or presented as a Government measure, however much the people as a whole may desire it. The glitter of the crown, love of power, and emoluments of office have too many attractions to prevent it. Should the great interests of the country, however, demand that "annexation" shall be attempted, the planters, merchants, and foreigners generally will induce the people to overthrow the Government, establish a republic, and then ask the United States for admittance into its Union. . . . —*Ibid*, p. 394.

The Reciprocity Treaty of 1875 began as follows:

Whereas, a convention between the United States of America and his Majesty the King of the Hawaiian Islands, on the subject of commercial reciprocity, was concluded and signed by their respective plenipotentiaries, at the city of Washington, on the thirtieth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five, which convention, as amended by the contracting parties, is word for word as follows . . . —*Ibid*, p. 405.

Secretary Blaine, Dec. 1, 1881, to Mr. Comly, Honolulu:

I have shown in a previous instruction how entirely Hawaii is a part of the productive and commercial system of the American States. So far as the staple growths and imports of the islands go, the reciprocity treaty makes them practically members of an American zollverein, an outlying district of the State of California. So far as political structure and independence of action are concerned, Hawaii is as remote from our control as China. This contradiction is only explicable by assuming what is the fact that thirty years ago, having the choice between material annexation and commercial assimilation of the islands, the United States chose the less responsible alternative. —*Ibid.*, p. 410

Minister Stevens to Secretary Blaine, Feb. 8, 1892:

There are increasing indications that the annexation sentiment is growing among the business men as well as with the less responsible of the foreign and native population of the islands. The present political situation is feverish, and I see no prospect of its being permanently otherwise until these islands become a part of the American Union or a possession of Great Britain. The intelligent and responsible men here, unaided by outside support, are too few in numbers to control in political affairs and to secure good government. There are indications that even the "Liberals," just beaten at the election, though composed of a majority of the popular vote, are about to declare for annexation, at least their leaders, their chief newspaper having already published editorials to this effect. At a future time, after the proposed treaty shall have been ratified, I shall deem it my official duty to give a more elaborate statement of facts and reasons why a "new departure" by the United States as to Hawaii is rapidly becoming a necessity, that a "protectorate" is impracticable, and that annexation must be the future remedy, or else Great Britain will be furnished with circumstances and opportunity to get a hold on these islands which will cause future serious embarrassment to the United States.—*Ibid.*, p. 422.

Mr. Stevens to Secretary Foster, Nov. 20, 1892:

One of two courses seems to me absolutely necessary to be followed, either bold and vigorous measures for annexation or a "customs union," an ocean cable from the Californian coast to Honolulu Pearl Harbor perpetually ceded to the United States, with an implied but not necessarily stipulated American protectorate over the islands . . . —*Ib d.* p. 435

President Dole to Mr. Willis, Minister of the United States, Dec. 23, 1893:

While we accept the decision of the President of the United States, declining further to consider the annexation proposition, as the final conclusion of the present administration, we do not feel inclined to regard it as the last word of the American Government upon this subject, for the history of the mutual relations of the two countries, of American effort and influence in building up the Christian civilization which has so conspicuously aided in giving this country an honorable place among independent nations, the geographical position of these islands, and the important and, to both countries, profitable reciprocal commercial interests which have long existed, together with our weakness as a sovereign nation, all point with convincing force to political union between the two countries, as the necessary logical result from the circumstances mentioned. This conviction is emphasized by the favorable expression of American statesmen over a long period in favor of annexation, conspicuous among whom are the names of W. L. Marcy, William H. Seward, Hamilton Fish and James G. Blaine, all former Secretaries of State, and especially so by the action of your last administration in negotiating a treaty of annexation with this Government and sending it to the Senate with a view to its ratification.

We shall therefore continue the project of political union with the United States as a conspicuous feature of our foreign policy, confidently hoping that sooner or

later it will be crowned with success, to the lasting benefit of both countries. . . . —*Ibid.*, *Executive Document No. 70*, p. 36

Extracts from the Treaty of Annexation made by President McKinley's Administration, 1897:

ARTICLE I The Republic of Hawaii hereby cedes absolutely and without reserve to the United States of America all rights of sovereignty of whatsoever kind in and over the Hawaiian Islands and their dependencies; and it is agreed that all the territory of and appertaining to the Republic of Hawaii is hereby annexed to the United States of America under the name of the Territory of Hawaii

ARTICLE III Until Congress shall provide for the government of such islands all the civil, judicial, and military powers exercised by the officers of the existing Government in said islands shall be vested in such person or persons, and shall be exercised in such manner, as the President of the United States shall direct, and the President shall have power to remove said officers and fill the vacancies so occasioned

ARTICLE VI The President shall appoint five commissioners, at least two of whom shall be residents of the Hawaiian Islands who shall as soon as reasonably practicable recommend to Congress such legislation concerning the Territory of Hawaii as they shall deem necessary or proper —*Cited in "Current History," 1897, pp. 329, 330*

President McKinley, in transmitting the Treaty to the Senate, said:

The incorporation of the Hawaiian Islands into the body politic of the United States is the necessary and fitting sequel to the chain of events which, from a very early period of our history has controlled the intercourse and prescribed the association of the United States and the Hawaiian Islands

Not only is the union of the Hawaiian territory to the United States no new scheme, but it is the inevitable

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We shall therefore continue the project of political union with the United States as a conspicuous feature of our foreign policy, confidently hoping that sooner or

Representative Newlands [Nev.] introduced into the House the following resolution, which was finally adopted, July 6, instead of the Senate resolution, cited above:

Whereas the Government of the Republic of Hawaii having in due form, signified its consent, in the manner provided by its constitution, to cede absolutely and without reserve to the United States of America all rights of sovereignty of whatsoever kind in and over the Hawaiian Islands and their dependencies, and also to cede and transfer to the United States the absolute fee and ownership of all public Government or crown lands, public buildings or edifices, ports, harbors, military equipment, and all other public property of every kind and description, belonging to the Government of the Hawaiian Islands, together with every right and appurtenance thereunto appertaining, therefore

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That said cession is accepted, ratified, and confirmed, and that the said Hawaiian Islands and their dependencies be, and they are hereby, annexed as a part of the territory of the United States and are subject to the sovereign dominion thereof, and that all and singular the property and rights heretofore mentioned, are vested in the United States of America — *Congressional Record, 1898 Vol. XXXI, Part 7, p. 6703*

In the course of the debate of the Newlands resolution, Mr. Johnson [Ind.] said, in part:

First — That the annexation of Hawaii to the United States is not necessary as a war measure in our conflict with Spain.

Second — That the annexation of the islands is not necessary in order to prevent it from falling into the hands of some other great power, to be used by it to menace and attack our coast.

Third — That the annexation of Hawaii is of itself inherently wrong, and that it is the opening wedge which

is designed to lead and which will lead to still further acquisitions of insulated foreign territory, and that such a policy is against the best interest of the country, and therefore ought not to be entered upon.

Now, Sir, let us consider the first of these propositions. It has been contended in this debate that the present war makes it necessary that in order to maintain ourselves against Spain in the Philippine Islands and prevent her from sending there for our overthrow a new navy and army, which it is claimed she is likely to do, we should annex Hawaii for our use as a coaling station and for a base of supplies for our operations in the Philippines.

Mr. Speaker, this war with Spain does not furnish a single additional argument in favor of the annexation of this island that did not exist before the conflict was precipitated. It does not strengthen the position of the annexationist one particle. It furnishes simply a pretext for annexation, not a reason for it. . . .

This is one thing, Mr. Speaker, which induces me to declare that instead of the war being a reason why we should now proceed to annex Hawaii, it furnishes every reason why we should defer all action in the matter until a more suitable occasion, when we can ascertain all the facts and consequences in the premises and come to a deliberate conclusion—one which will not come back to plague us in the years that are to come.

Considering the question of the annexation of Hawaii alone and as an independent proposition, it is to my mind by all odds the gravest and most far-reaching proposition in its effect upon the American people, which they have been called upon to confront since the days of the Civil war, not even excepting the very vital question of finance itself.

But, Mr. Speaker, as I have said, the annexation of Hawaii is not the ultimatum of the annexationists. It is but the entering wedge. Permit this act to be done, and you gain an impetus which you will find it difficult to resist. Its avowed purpose, its natural tendency, its irresistible consequence means that we are to proceed still further in extending our possessions and in the

sought Hawaii? 8 What position did the United States take in regard to any annexation by other powers? 9 Compare the terms of the various treaties. 10. What one marked difference do you note? 11 How was Alaska finally annexed? 12 Find out if any other annexation was ever made in the same way? 13 Give the arguments against annexation. 14 Find out the area of the islands, 15 their population and its character. 16. Write a history of the annexation of Hawaii. 17. Compare this annexation with previous ones. 18 Find out the difference in regard to the government of the islands and the government of previous acquisitions of territory.

PORTO RICO AND THE PHILIPPINES

Porto Rico. Maine destroyed, Feb. 15, 1898.
War declared, April 21, 1898. Aug. 12, 1898,
protocol signed. Peace treaty, Dec. 10, 1898.
Porto Rico gained. Area, 3,600 square miles.
Population (est.), 900,000.

The Philippines. Defeat Spanish fleet at Ma-
nila, May 1, 1898. War begins with Filipinos,
Feb., 1899. Area, 140,000 square miles. Popu-
lation (est.), 8,000,000.



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CHAPTER X

PORTO RICO AND THE PHILIPPINES

This chapter completes our study of the territorial growth of the United States. For the series of studies on expansion little more can be claimed than that they open up the subject, and give a fair introduction into its complicated history. A complete account of the territorial development of the United States would nearly coincide with the history of the Union. However it is believed that a large portion of the documents essential to an understanding of the subject are here brought together as has never been done before; also it is hoped that typical speeches have been chosen, and typical men made to speak on the one side and the other of the issues discussed from time to time as annexations have been made. The essential clauses in each treaty or resolution by which territory has been gained have been cited. The extracts made from controversial writings and speeches are not made in all cases because the statements made are true, but the choice has been made in order to present the views held by the one side and the other. For example the statements made by Senator Hoar may be true or false, as may be those made by Senator Lodge, for example, on the other side; but they are representative men, and the extracts show what they

believed to be true, and the reasons in part for their conclusions. Again some solution must be reached upon the questions at issue; the extracts from Mr. Johnson and Mr. Beveridge will illustrate the opposite positions. It goes without saying that an honest effort has been made to get representative extracts, and then to let these extracts tell their own story. How successful the effort has been the author cannot say, but leaves it to his fellow teachers to decide. Of one thing a confident opinion may be expressed: namely, that a careful study of this little volume will give the pupils of the average American school a more detailed and adequate idea of the growth of the American nation, than can be secured from the material ordinarily available. The work is finished, and it is hoped that it may supply a need that the compiler has felt greatly in his own work.

The following extracts from the messages and proclamations of President McKinley give a good insight into the official side of the steps taken in the recent acquisitions of territory.—
First Annual Message, Dec., 1897:

The most important problem with which this Government is now called upon to deal pertaining to its foreign relations concerns its duty toward Spain and the Cuban insurrection. Problems and conditions more or less in common with those now existing have confronted this Government at various times in the past. The story of Cuba for many years has been one of unrest, growing discontent, an effort toward a larger enjoyment of liberty and self control, of organized resistance to the mother country, of depression after distress and war-

fare, and of ineffectual settlement to be followed by renewed revolt. For no enduring period since the enfranchisement of the continental possessions of Spain in the Western Continent has the condition of Cuba or the policy of Spain toward Cuba not caused concern to the United States.

The prospect from time to time that the weakness of Spain's hold upon the island and the political vicissitudes and embarrassments of the home Government might lead to the transfer of Cuba to a continental power called forth between 1823 and 1860 various emphatic declarations of the policy of the United States to permit no disturbance of Cuba's connection with Spain unless in the direction of independence or acquisition by us through purchase, nor has there been any change of this declared policy since upon the part of the Government.

The existing conditions cannot but fill this Government and the American people with the gravest apprehension. There is no desire on the part of our people to profit by the misfortunes of Spain. We have only the desire to see the Cubans prosperous and contented, enjoying that measure of self-control which is the inalienable right of man, protected in their right to reap the benefit of the exhaustless treasures of their country.

Throughout all these horrors and dangers to our own peace this Government has never in any way abrogated its sovereign prerogative of reserving to itself the determination of its policy and course according to its own high sense of right and in consonance with the dearest interests and convictions of our own people should the prolongation of the strife so demand.

Of the untried measures there remain only, Recognition of the insurgents as belligerents, recognition of the independence of Cuba, neutral intervention to end the war by imposing a rational compromise between the contestants, and intervention in favor of one or the other party. I speak not of forcible annexation, for that can not be thought of. That, by our code of morality, would be criminal aggression

Sure of the right, keeping free from all offence ourselves, actuated only by upright and patriotic considerations, moved neither by passion nor selfishness, the Government will continue its watchful care over the rights and property of American citizens and will abate none of its efforts to bring about by peaceful agencies a peace which shall be honorable and enduring. If it shall hereafter appear to be a duty imposed by our obligations to ourselves, to civilization, and humanity to intervene with force, it shall be without fault on our part and only because the necessity for such action will be so clear as to command the support and approval of the civilized world —*Richardson, Messages and Documents of the Presidents Vol. X., pp. 127, 128, 131, 136.*

Special Message, March 28, 1898:

At forty minutes past nine in the evening of the 15th of February the *Maine* was destroyed by an explosion, by which the entire forward part of the ship was utterly wrecked. In this catastrophe 2 officers and 264 of her crew perished, those who were not killed outright by her explosion being penned between decks by the tangle of wreckage and drowned by the immediate sinking of the hull. —*Ibid, p. 137.*

Message of April 11, 1898:

The long trial has proved that the object for which Spain has waged the war cannot be attained. The fire of insurrection may flame or may smoulder with varying seasons, but it has not been and it is plain that it can not be extinguished by present methods. The only hope of relief and repose from a condition which can no longer be endured is the enforced pacification of Cuba. In the name of humanity, in the name of civilization, in behalf of endangered American interests which give us the right and the duty to speak and to act, the war in Cuba must stop.

In view of these facts and of these considerations I ask the Congress to authorize and empower the President to take measures to secure a full and final termination of hostilities between the Government of Spain

and the people of Cuba, and to secure in the island the establishment of a stable government, capable of maintaining order and observing its international obligations, insuring peace and tranquility and the security of its citizens as well as our own, and to use the military and naval forces of the United States as may be necessary for these purposes . . . —*Ibid*, p. 150.

Second Annual Message, Dec. 5, 1898. In the Message he cites the following Joint Resolution of Congress:

First. That the people of the island of Cuba are, and of right ought to be, free and independent.

Second. That it is the duty of the United States to demand, and the Government of the United States does hereby demand that the Government of Spain at once relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters.

Third. That the President of the United States be, and he hereby is, directed and empowered to use the entire land and naval forces of the United States and to call into the actual service of the United States the militia of the several States to such extent as may be necessary to carry these resolutions into effect.

Fourth. That the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over said island, except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination when that is accomplished to leave the government and control of the island to its people.—*Ibid*, p. 164.

In the same Message the following paragraphs are found:

Only reluctance to cause needless loss of life and property prevented the early storming and capture of the city, and therewith the absolute military occupancy of the whole group. The insurgents meanwhile had resumed the active hostilities suspended by the uncompleted truce of December, 1897. Their forces invested Manila from the northern and eastern sides, but were

constrained by Admiral Dewey and General Merritt from attempting an assault. It was fitting that whatever was to be done in the way of decisive operations in that quarter should be accomplished by the strong arm of the United States alone. Obeying the stern precept of war which enjoins the overcoming of the adversary and the extinction of his power wherever assailable as the speedy and sure means to win a peace, divided victory was not permissible, for no partition of the rights and responsibilities attending the enforcement of a just and advantageous peace could be thought of.

The last scene of the war was enacted at Manila, its starting place. On August 15, after a brief assault upon the works by the land forces, in which the squadron assisted, the capital surrendered unconditionally. The casualties were comparatively few. By this the conquest of the Philippine Islands, virtually accomplished when the Spanish capacity for resistance was destroyed by Admiral Dewey's victory of the 1st of May, was formally sealed. . . . —*Ibid.*, pp. 168, 169, 172.

The following articles of the protocol with Spain of August 12, give the essentials for an understanding of the preliminary terms of peace.

ARTICLE I. Spain will relinquish all claims of sovereignty over and all title to Cuba.

ARTICLE II. Spain will cede to the United States the island of Porto Rico and other islands now under Spanish sovereignty in the West Indies, and also an island in the Ladrões to be selected by the United States.

ARTICLE III. The United States will occupy and hold the city, bay and harbor of Manila pending the conclusion of a treaty of peace which shall determine the control, disposition, and government of the Philippines. —*Ibid.*, p. 174.

Concerning Porto Rico he says:

. . . The Porto Rican Joint Commission speedily accomplished its task, and by the 18th of October the

evacuation of the island was completed. The United States flag was raised over the island at noon on that day. The administration of its affairs has been provisionally intrusted to a military governor until the Congress shall otherwise provide. . . . —*Ibid*, p. 175.

The Philippine question may be studied from orders sent by the President to General Merritt, August 17, 1898:

The President directs that there must be no joint occupation with the insurgents. The United States, in the possession of Manila City, Manila Bay and Harbor, must preserve the peace and protect persons and property within the territory occupied by their military and naval forces. The insurgents and all others must recognize the military occupation and authority of the United States and the cessation of hostilities proclaimed by the President. Use whatever means in your judgment are necessary to this end. All law-abiding people must be treated alike.—*Ibid*, p. 217.

The Secretary of War was addressed, December 21, 1898, in the following language:

Sir: The destruction of the Spanish fleet in the harbor of Manila by the United States naval squadron commanded by Rear Admiral Dewey, followed by the reduction of the city and the surrender of the Spanish forces, practically effected the conquest of the Philippine Islands and the suspension of Spanish sovereignty therein.

With the signature of the treaty of peace between the United States and Spain by their respective plenipotentiaries at Paris, on the 10th instant, and as the result of the victories of American arms, the future control, disposition and government of the Philippine Islands are ceded to the United States. In fulfillment of the rights of sovereignty thus acquired and the responsible obligations of government thus assumed, the actual occupation and administration of the entire group of the Philippine Islands becomes immediately necessary, and the military government heretofore maintained by the

United States in the city, harbor and bay of Manila is to be extended with a possible dispatch to the whole of the ceded territory.—*Ibid*, p. 219.

To the Secretary of State the President says:

My communication to the Secretary of War dated December 21, 1898, declares the necessity of extending the actual occupation and administration of the city, harbor, and bay of Manila to the whole of the territory which by the treaty of Paris, signed on December 10, 1898, passed from the sovereignty of Spain to the sovereignty of the United States and the consequent establishment of military government throughout the entire group of the Philippine Islands.

While the treaty has not yet been ratified, it is believed that it will be by the time of the arrival at Manila of the commissioners named below. In order to facilitate the most humane, specific, and effective extension of authority throughout these islands and to secure with the least possible delay the benefits of a wise and generous protection of life and property to the inhabitants, I have named Jacob G. Schurman Rear-Admiral George Dewey, Major-General Elwell S. Otis, Charles Denby, and Dean C. Worcester to constitute a commission to aid in the accomplishment of these results.—*Ibid*, p. 222.

The following are the most important articles of the treaty between Spain and the United States as far as the acquisition of territory is concerned:

The United States of America and Her Majesty the Queen Regent of Spain, in the name of her august son, Don Alfonso XIII., desiring to end the state of war now existing between the two countries, have for that purpose appointed as plenipotentiaries

ARTICLE 1. Spain relinquishes all claim of sovereignty over and title to Cuba

And as the island is, upon its evacuation by Spain, to be occupied by the United States, the United States will, so long as such occupation shall last, assume and

discharge the obligations that may under international law result from the fact of its occupation for the protection of life and property.

ARTICLE 2. Spain cedes to the United States the island of Porto Rico and other islands now under Spanish sovereignty in the West Indies, and the island of Guam, in the Marianas or La Irones.

ARTICLE 3. Spain cedes to the United States the archipelago known as the Philippine Islands, and comprehending the islands lying within the following lines:

The United States will pay to Spain the sum of \$20,000,000 within three months after the exchange of the ratifications of the present treaty.

ARTICLE 9. Spanish subjects, natives of the peninsula, residing in the territory over which Spain by the present treaty relinquishes or cedes her sovereignty, may remain in such territory or may remove therefrom, retaining in either event all their rights of property, including the right to sell or dispose of such property or of its proceeds; and they shall also have the right to carry on their industry, commerce, and professions, being subject in respect thereof to such laws as are applicable to other foreigners. In case they remain in the territory, they may preserve their allegiance to the Crown of Spain by making, before a court of record, within a year from the date of the exchange of ratifications, of this treaty, a declaration of their decision to preserve such allegiance, in default of which declaration they shall be held to have renounced it and to have adopted the nationality of the territory in which they may reside.

The civil rights and political status of the native inhabitants of the territories hereby ceded to the United States shall be determined by the congress.

ARTICLE 10. The inhabitants of the territories over which Spain relinquishes or cedes her sovereignty shall be secured in the free exercise of their religion — *Cited in "Current History" 1898, Appendix, pp 1013-20*

Resolution introduced by Senator Vest [Mo.] December 6, 1898, tells its own story:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That under the constitution of the United States no power is given to the Federal Government to acquire territory to be held and governed permanently as colonies.

The colonial system of European nations can not be established under our present constitution, but all territory acquired by the government, except such small amount as may be necessary for coaling stations, correction of boundaries, and similar governmental purposes, must be acquired and governed with the purpose of ultimately organizing such territory into States suitable for admission into this Union —*Congressional Record, Vol 32, part I, 1898, p 432*

Mr. Caffery [La.] spoke on the above resolution, January 6, 1899, in part, as follows:

Mr President, we have heard some startling doctrines announced on the floor in regard to the power of the Government of the United States over all Territories. Without limitation, without modification, Congressional power is set up to be supreme over them, without a check in any direction. That proposition is fraught with more danger to our institutions than any other before made in this House or in the other. Here is the declaration made in the speech of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. Platt,) which was delivered in the Senate on the 19th of December, 1898:

"I propose to maintain that the United States is a nation; that as a nation it possesses every sovereign power not reserved in its Constitution to the States or the people: that the right to acquire territory was not reserved, and is therefore an inherent sovereign right; that it is a right upon which there is no limitation, and with regard to which there is no qualification; that in certain instances the right may be inferred from specific clauses in the Constitution, but that it exists independent of these clauses: that in the right to acquire territory is found the right to govern it; and as the right to acquire is a sovereign and inherent right, the

right to govern is a sovereign right not limited in the Constitution, and that these propositions are in accordance with the views of the framers of the Constitution, the decisions of the Supreme Court, and the legislation of Congress."

Here, sir, is the bold proposition advanced that the right to govern is unlimited, as broad, as imperial as the right to acquire, and that there is no limitation to it in the Constitution — *Ibid*, p. 433.

Mr. President, I propose to show that we have never yet acquired any territory, except possibly in the case of Hawaii and except possibly in the case of Alaska, that was not intended to be, and, in fact, afterwards actually became, carved into States, and that the principle of holding territory in perpetuum to be governed despotically by Congress, never obtained in the United States. I have excepted possibly the case of Alaska. It was thought to be too bleak and barren for settlement. If it cannot be settled, but will remain a waste, no harm is done. If settled, it must be settled by whites, and if they settle it and form a State the policy of our Government in the past will be pursued. — *Ibid*, pp. 433, 434.

Mr. Mason [Ill.] January 7, 1899, introduced the following resolution:

Whereas all just powers of government are derived from the consent of the governed, Therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the United States, That the Government of the United States of America will not attempt to govern the people of any other country in the world without the consent of the people themselves, or subject them by force to our domination against their will. — *Ibid*, p. 466

Mr. Hoar [Mass.] January 9, 1899, says:

Mr. President, I am quite sure that no man who will hear or who will read what I say to day will doubt that nothing could induce me to say it but a commanding sense of public duty. I think I dislike more than most men to differ from men with whom I have so long and

so constantly agreed. I dislike to differ from the President, whose election I hailed with such personal satisfaction and such exulting anticipations for the Republic. I dislike to differ from so many of my party associates in this Chamber, with whom I have for so many years trod the same path and sought the same goal. . . .

Certainly, Mr President, no man can ever justly charge me with a lack of faith in my countrymen, or a lack of faith in the principles on which the Republic is founded. If during thirty years' service within these walls, or during fifty years of constant, active and absorbed interest in public affairs, there has ever come from my lips an utterance showing lack of faith in the people, in the Republic, in country, in liberty, or in the future, let them be silent now. . . .

After all I am old-fashioned enough to think that our fathers, who won the Revolution and who framed the Constitution, were the wisest builders of states the world has yet seen. I think they knew where to seek for the best lessons of experience and they knew how to lay down the rules which should be the best guides for for their descendants. They did not disdain to study ancient history. They knew what caused the downfall of the mighty Roman Republic. They read, as Chatham said he did, the history of the freedom, of the decay, and the enslavement of Greece. They knew to what she owed her glory and to what she owed her ruin. They learned from her the doctrine that while there is little else that a democracy cannot accomplish it cannot rule over vassal states or subject peoples without bringing in the elements of death into its own constitution. . . .

The Senator further goes on to taunt me with doubt and fear. Well, Mr President, I do not think that I have been, am now, or am likely to be in a condition of much doubt in regard to this transaction. I am compelled to part company with the Senator!- But I am very confident I am in a company of the framers of the Constitution, the signers of the Declaration, the men of the Revolution, and the great statesmen and lovers of liberty of every generation since until six months ago.

As to fear, I will return the kindness of my honorable friend by suggesting to him that there is a fear which I hope one time may possess him, which is defined by the highest authority as the beginning of wisdom. It is the fear of the Lord, the fear of doing wrong; the fear of usurping power, the fear of violating trusts; the fear of violating the highest trust ever committed to mortal man—a restrained, delegated, and specific political power entrusted to him for public ends, for the service of liberty and the benefit of the people.

I hope not to weary the Senate by reiteration. But this is the greatest question, this question of the power and authority of our Constitution in this matter, I had almost said, that had been discussed among mankind from the beginning of time. Certainly it is the greatest question ever discussed in this Chamber from the beginning of the Government. The question is this: Have we the right, as doubtless we have the physical power, to enter upon the government of ten or twelve million subject people without constitutional restraint? Of that question the Senator from Connecticut takes the affirmative. And upon that question I desire to join issue.

I shall take but a very few minutes more.

Charles Sumner affirmed repeatedly, and the people of Massachusetts supported him in that affirmation what at last the whole Republican party, and I have thought till within the last six months the whole country, had come to believe, that the Declaration of Independence is co-equal with the Constitution, the one being a grant of power and the other a sovereign rule of interpretation.

Charles Sumner says:

"The words that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed are sacred words, full of life-giving energy. Not simply national independence was here proclaimed, but also the primal rights of all mankind. Then and there appeared the angel of human liberation, speaking and acting at once

with heaven born strength, breaking bolts, unloosing bonds, and opening prison doors, always ranging on its mighty errand, wherever there are any, no matter of what country or race, who struggle for rights denied; now cheering Garibaldi at Naples, as it had cheered Washington in the snows at Valley Forge and especially visiting all who are downtrodden, whispering that there is none so poor as to be without rights which every man is bound to respect, none so degraded as to be beneath its beneficent reach, none so lofty as to be above its restraining power."

... Ah, Mr. President, shall we turn it [the painting of the signing of the Declaration of Independence] with its face to the wall? Shall the scroll first be stricken from the hand of Jefferson and another put there which shall read,

"Governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed—some of them. Men are created equal—some of them. Taxation and representation go together—for us, not for other men. Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are held in the Philippine Islands at our will, and not at the will of the people."

At the close of the nineteenth century the American Republic, after its example in abolishing slavery has spread through the world, is asked by the Senator from Connecticut to adopt a doctrine of constitutional expansion on the principle that it is right to conquer, buy, and subject a whole nation if we happen to deem it for their good—for their good as we conceive it, and not as they conceive it.

Mr. President, Abraham Lincoln said, "No man was ever created good enough to own another." No nation was ever created good enough to own another.

No single American workman, no humble American home, will ever be better or happier for the constitutional doctrine which the Senator from Connecticut proclaims. If it be adopted here not only the workman's wages will be diminished, not only will the burden of taxation be increased, not only like the peasant of Europe, will he be born with a heavy debt about

his neck and will stagger with an armed soldier upon his back, but his dignity will be dishonored and his manhood disowned by the act of his own Government. — *Ibid.*, pp 494, 499, 500, 501.

Mr. Mason [Ill.] Jan. 10, 1899, speaks on his resolution:

The proposition, however, followed by the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Hoar), and to which I wish to invite the attention of my distinguished friend from Ohio (Mr. Foraker)—and he knows with what sincerity I say "my friend"—is to the effect, first, that we have no right to acquire territory for an unconstitutional purpose, second, that the Constitution must be interpreted in the light of the Declaration of Independence, and, therefore, third, that we have no right under the Constitution to acquire territory for the purpose of governing a people without their consent.

I had hoped for some power of language that the old masters were said to have who stood within this forum in the past. I have almost prayed for some magnetic power that I could turn the tide for the liberty of those people, for some magnetic power that I could draw you so close that I could write in living letters upon your hearts the word "Liberty." Not liberty, Mr. President, for your family as I prescribe it, not liberty for me or my children by your dictation, not Austrian liberty for Hungary, not Spanish liberty for Cuba, not English liberty for the United States, aye, and not American liberty for the Philippines, but universal liberty—universal liberty for which our fathers died.

Jan. 11, 1899, Mr. Bacon introduced the following resolutions:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

First, That the Government and people of the United States have not waged the recent war with Spain for conquest and for the acquisition of foreign territory, but solely for the purposes set forth in the

resolution of Congress making the declaration of said war, the acquisition of such small tracts of land or harbors as may be necessary for governmental purposes being not deemed inconsistent with the same

Second That in demanding and in receiving the cession of the Philippine Islands it is not the purpose of the Government of the United States to secure and maintain dominion over the same as a part of the territory of the United States, or to incorporate the inhabitants thereof as citizens of the United States, or to hold said inhabitants as vassals or subjects of this Government.

Third That whereas at the time of the declaration of war by the United States against Spain, and prior thereto the inhabitants of the Philippine Islands were actively engaged in a war with Spain to achieve their independence, and whereas said purpose and the military operations thereunder have not been abandoned, but are still being actively prosecuted thereunder, therefore, in recognition of and in obedience to the vital principles announced in the great declaration that governments derive "their just powers from the consent of the governed," the Government of the United States recognizes that the people of the Philippine Islands of a right ought to be free and independent; that, with this view and to give effect to the same, the Government of the United States has required the Government of Spain to relinquish its authority and government in the Philippine Islands and to withdraw its land and naval forces from the Philippine Islands and from the waters thereof.

Fourth. That the United States hereby disclaim any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over said islands, and assert their determination, when an independent government shall have been duly erected therein entitled to recognition as such, to transfer to said government, upon terms which shall be reasonable and just, all rights secured under the cession by Spain, and to thereupon leave the government and control of the islands to their people.
—*Ibid*, p. 561.

Senator Foraker [O.] says:

I am willing to trust the administration; I am willing to trust the institutions of this Government and the people of this Government to do justice to the Filipinos. I have no sympathy whatever Mr. President, and I do not believe the Administration has, with the war which some people talk about making on Aguinaldo and his followers in their struggle for liberty and independence, and I have no sympathy whatever with the talk that is indulged in in some places about making war on Gomez and his followers who have been struggling for the liberation of Cuba. In due time all that will be reached and considered. But I say now that this case, as every other case, must stand or fall on its own merits and be measured by its own facts, conditions, and circumstances.

I know whereof I speak when I say that of the four things we had the choice of doing—giving the islands back to Spain, giving them to other countries, leaving them to anarchy, or taking them ourselves—the President acted most wisely when he concluded that we should take them ourselves—and he comes now and says, when he submits this treaty, “You put me to war; here is the result, here are these people, do with them as you like.” It is for the Congress of the United States to investigate and find out about the islands of the Philippines, what kind of inhabitants they may have, whether or not they are capable of government, and whether or not they want government, or whether or not only a few want government.

I wish, in concluding, to submit and have printed at the close of my remarks the order made by the president with respect to the Philippine Islands, dated December 21, 1898. I shall not stop to read it but I submit it and ask that it may go into the record simply that the spirit with which he has undertaken to do what he is doing may be made manifest.—*Ibid*, p. 572

Mr. Bacon speaks on his resolutions, January 18, 1899, in part, in these words:

Mr. President, those with whom I am in sympathy in

this discussion do not favor the acquisition by the United States of distant territory, of territory so remote as not to be within the proper sphere of the influence of the United States, and more especially of territories peopled by an altogether alien and different race. Further than that, we do not believe that it is consistent with our views and in harmony with the principles of our government that any territory, speaking generally, should be annexed to the United States against the will of the people inhabiting such territory. We do not believe that it is possible to safely incorporate as a State any community lying on the opposite side of the globe. We do not believe that it is either to the interest or within the governmental power of this country to annex territory with a view to its being held as a colony, and its citizens, or rather its inhabitants, held as vassals. — *Ibid.*, p. 733.

Mr. Lodge [Mass.] says:

My own views as to our constitutional rights and powers are simple and well defined, and have not been formed without some study, both of our constitution and our history. I shall content myself with stating them. I believe that the United States has the undoubted power, which it has frequently exercised, to acquire territory and to hold and govern it. I am ready to admit if necessary that actions in these directions must be taken for constitutional purposes, but the constitutionality of the purposes, when Congress is about to exercise these or any other powers, must be determined by Congress itself through its majority. I believe that the power of the United States in any territorial possession outside of the limits of the States themselves is absolute, with the single exception of the limitation placed upon such outside possessions by the thirteenth amendment.

Constitutions do not make people; people make constitutions. Our constitution is great and admirable, because the men who made it were so and the people who ratified it and lived under it were and are brave, intelligent, and lovers of liberty. There is a higher sanction and a surer protection to life and liberty, to

the right of free speech and trial by jury, to justice and humanity, in the traditions, the beliefs, the habits of mind, and the character of the American people than any which can be afforded by any constitution, no matter how wisely drawn. If the American people were disposed to tyranny, injustice, and oppression, a constitution would offer but a temporary barrier to their ambitions, and the reverence for the constitution, and for law and justice grows out of the fact that the American people believe in freedom and humanity, in equal justice to all men, and in equal rights before the law, and while they so believe, the great doctrines of the Declaration of Independence and of the Constitution will never be in peril.

To the American people and their Government I am ready to intrust my life, my liberty, my honor, and what is far dearer to me than anything personal to myself, the lives and the liberty of my children and my children's children. If I am ready thus to trust my children to the Government, which the American people create and sustain, am I to shrink from intrusting to that same people the fate and fortune of the inhabitants of the Philippine Islands? I have beheld with amazement the specters of wrong doing which have been conjured up here and charged as possible to the American people. I have been astonished to hear outside this Chamber men who for three years watched unmoved the torture of Cuba, pleading with fervid eloquence for the Filipinos, just rescued by us from Spain, against the possible cruelty which Americans might inflict upon them. . . . —*Ibid*, pp. 958, 959.

From Senator Teller [Colo.]:

Mr. President, I do not pretend at the present time to go into any discussion of this question except to say that the precedents which I have presented, commencing with 1808 and extending to the organization of Oklahoma Territory in 1890, show that it has been the legislative idea in this country that the Constitution of the United States and the statutes of the United States do not go by their own force into the Territories. This is in accordance with a great number of decisions of

the Supreme Court of the United States commencing with the decision made by Chief Justice Marshall, who has rightfully been called the expounder of the constitution — *Ibid.*, p. 963

Senator Geo. F. Hoar, after studying the documents and reports respecting the Philippine question, draws the following conclusions:

. . . They [the documents, etc.] establish, beyond reasonable doubt, clearly:

One That Aguinaldo is an honest, patriotic and brave man. Indeed, that is the express testimony of Mr. Schurman, president of Cornell University and president of the commission appointed by our Government to investigate matters there

Two That Aguinaldo was the chosen leader of the people of the Philippine Islands.

Three. That that people have from the beginning desired independence and desire it now

Four. That this desire was communicated to our commanders when they gave them arms accepted their aid, and brought Aguinaldo from his exile when he was put in command of 30,000 Filipino soldiers, who were already in arms and organized

Five That the people of the Philippine Islands, before we fired upon their troops, had delivered their own land from Spain, with the single exception of the town of Manila and that they hemmed in the Spanish troops on land by a line extending from water to water.

Six. That we could not have captured the Spanish garrison, which was done by an arrangement beforehand, upon a mere show of resistance but for the fact that they were so hemmed in by Aguinaldo's forces and could not retreat beyond the range and fire of the guns of our fleet.

Seven' That during all this period from the beginning to the final conflict the Filipinos were repeatedly informing our Government, not only by communications addressed to the commanders on land and sea, but by those addressed to the President of the United States, that they desired their freedom, and that they

were never informed of any purpose on our part to subdue them.

Eight. That they were fit for independence. They had churches, libraries, works of art and education. They were better educated than many American communities within the memory of some of us. They were eager and ambitious to learn. They were governing the entire island, except Manila, in order and quiet, with municipal governments, courts of justice, schools, and a complete constitution resting upon the consent of the people. They were better fitted for self-government than any country on the American continent south of us, from the Rio Grande to Cape Horn, or than San Domingo or Haiti, when these countries, respectively, achieved their independence, and are fitter for self-government than some of them now. They are now as fit for self government as was Japan when she was welcomed into the family of nations.

Nine. That the outbreak of hostilities was not their fault, but ours.—*Congressional Record, April 12, 1900, pp. 43-44.*

Senator Cullom [Ill.] discusses the constitutional question as follows:

There has been much said about the Constitution of and by its own force "following the flag;" that "whenever the sovereignty of the United States is established over any territory," then and there *ex proprio vigore* the Constitution is in force, without any action by Congress. Mr. President, I do not agree to that. In my judgment, such doctrine is not sound: and if I may refer to parties in this Senate, it has never been believed by the Republican party that that was the true doctrine.

In the first national convention of the Republican party, held in Philadelphia in 1856, the following declaration was made:

Resolved, That the Constitution confers on Congress the sovereign powers over the Territories of the United States for their government.

Mr. President, many people of the United States seem to regard the new possessions acquired by American arms and deeded to us by Spain in accordance with the treaty of Paris, proclaimed at Washington, April 11, 1899, as being fully annexed to the United States and entitled to the same rights and treatment as one of our home Territories. The truth is that Congress, under the Constitution, can give to the Porto Ricans such a form of Government as is deemed best for them and for us.

I do not believe that the Constitution of the United States puts Congress in a straight-jacket and requires a particular form of government for every new acquisition of territory. We can give them a territorial form of government, such as is our usual form. We can govern them by a commission, by a military governor, or govern them as colonies or dependencies. So far as I am concerned, I believe in the ordinary Territorial form of government; but so far as the Constitution is concerned, I do not regard the country as tied down to any particular form.

There is no division among the majority in either House as to the power of Congress to legislate on this subject. The majority all agree that the Constitution does not extend by its own power over these new possessions, and that Congress can legislate for them as it deems wise, subject only to the prohibitions upon Congress in the Constitution. The Democratic party accepted the other view, that the Constitution does extend by its own force into the territories. . . .

—*Congressional Record*, April 2, 1900, pp. 3875, 3877.

Extracts from the speech of Senator Beveridge [Ind.] Jan. 9, 1900:

The Secretary read the joint resolution (S. R. 53) defining the policy of the United States relative to the Philippine Islands, as follows:

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Philippine Islands are territory belonging to the United States; that it is the intention of

the United States to retain them as such and to establish and maintain such governmental control throughout the archipelago as the situation may demand.

Mr. President, the times call for candor. The Philippines are ours forever, "territory belonging to the United States," as the Constitution calls for. And just beyond the Philippines are China's illimitable markets. We will not retreat from either. We will not repudiate our duty in the archipelago. We will not abandon our opportunity in the Orient. We will not renounce our part in the mission of our race, trustee, under God, of the civilization of the world. And we will move forward to our work, not howling out regrets like slaves whipped to their burdens, but with gratitude for a task worthy of our strength, and thanksgiving to Almighty God that He has marked us as His chosen people, henceforth to lead in the regeneration of the world.

Here, then, Senators, is the situation. Two years ago there was no land in all the world which we could occupy for any purpose. Our commerce was daily turning toward the Orient, and geography and trade developments made necessary our commercial empire over the Pacific. And in that ocean we had no commercial, naval, or military base. To-day we have one of the three great ocean possessions of the globe, located at the most commanding commercial, naval, and military points in the eastern seas, within hail of India, shoulder to shoulder with China, richer in its own resources than any equal body of land on the entire globe, and peopled by a race which civilization demands shall be improved. Shall we abandon it? That man little knows the common people of the Republic, little understands the instincts of our race, who thinks we will not hold it fast and hold it forever, administering just government by simplest means. We may trick up devices to shift our burden and lessen our opportunity; they will avail us nothing but delay. We may tangle conditions by applying academic arrangements of self-government to

a crude situation; their failure will drive us to our duty in the end.

.

The nation's power to make rules and regulations for the government of its possessions is not confined to any given set of rules or regulations. It is not confined to any particular formula of laws or kinds of government or type of administration. Where do Senators find constitutional warrant for any special kind of government in "territory belonging to the United States?" The language affirming our power to govern such territory is as broad as the requirements of all possible situations. And there is nothing in the Constitution to limit that comprehensive language. The very reverse is true. For power to administer government anywhere and in any manner the situation demands would have been in Congress if the Constitution had been silent, not merely because it is a power not reserved to the State or people; not merely because it is a power inherent in and an attribute of nationality, not even because it might be inferred from other specific provisions of the Constitution, but because it is the power most necessary for the ruling tendency of our race—the tendency to explore, expand and grow, to sail new seas and seek new lands, subdue the wilderness, revitalize decaying peoples, and plant civilized and civilizing governments over all the globe —*Congressional Record, Senate, Jan. 9, 1900.*

After reading the following bill, Senator Henry Cabot Lodge spoke, in part, as quoted below:

Be it enacted, etc., That when all insurrection against the sovereignty and authority of the United States in the Philippine Islands, acquired from Spain by the treaty concluded at Paris on the 10th day of December, 1898, shall have been completely suppressed by the military and naval forces of the United States, all military, civil, and judicial powers necessary to govern the said islands shall, until otherwise provided by Congress, be vested in such person and persons, and shall be ex-

exercised in such manner as the President of the United States shall direct for maintaining and protecting the inhabitants of said islands in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property, and religion

MR LODGE This bill, Mr President, is simple but also sufficient. It makes no declarations and offers no promises as to a future we can not yet predict. It meets the need of the present and stops there . . .

. . . I hope and believe that we shall retain the islands, and that, peace and order once restored, we shall and should reestablish civil government, beginning with the towns and villages, where the inhabitants are able to manage their own affairs. We should give them honest administration, and prompt and efficient courts. We should see to it that there is entire protection to persons and property, in order to encourage the development of the islands by the assurance of safety to investors of capital. All men should be protected in the free exercise of their religion, and the doors thrown open to missionaries of all Christian sects. The land, which belongs to the people, and of which they have been robbed in the past, should be returned to them and their titles made secure. We should inaugurate and carry forward, in the most earnest and liberal way, a comprehensive system of popular education. Finally, while we bring prosperity to the islands by developing their resources, we should, as rapidly as conditions will permit, bestow upon them self government and home rule. Such, in outline, is the policy which I believe can be and will be pursued toward the Philippines. It will require time, patience, honesty, and ability for its completion, but it is thoroughly practicable and reasonable. *Congressional Record, Senate, March 7, 1900.*

Senator Chauncey Depew's position on the present problem is indicated in the following extracts:

It has been repeatedly said here that government by the United States in these islands will be a despotism,

Such a belief shows a singular ignorance or misapprehension of the constitutional limitation upon our powers and the spirit of our constitution. While the constitution does not extend over the Territories of its own force and without legislation, its prohibitions are binding on Congress. In those prohibitions, which are also privileges enjoyed by the people wherever our jurisdiction extends, is a complete charter of rights which Congress can neither limit or impair. All personal privileges and immunities, such as religious freedom, property rights, freedom of speech and the press, and equality before the law must prevail wherever our flag floats. But outside of the Constitution and laws is an unwritten law created by the genius of the institutions of the paramount power and controlling its acts and officials in all colonial governments.

This is not a sordid view, nor can any right apprehension of our Philippine policy or our relation to our island colonies be sordid or purely commercial. Commerce and civilization always go together. In spite of ourselves we have colonial possessions. We have no policy to declare, no glittering resolutions or proclamations to make and in the future to embarrass us. We will stamp out the insurrection and establish a stable government. We will organize local government. We will constitute courts. We will insure with the whole power of the United States security for life and property, freedom of religion and equal and just administration of the law.

The kindergarten of liberty, under proper instructors, rapidly develops its pupils for larger possibilities for citizenship, respect for law, for judicial duties and for a constantly increasing share in their local and general assemblies. One year of rule by the United States in Cuba is a convincing object lesson. Brigands have become farmers, and revolutionists conservative citizens. Order has taken the place of anarchy, and law of license. The Cubans are developing their industries and rapidly acquiring habits of self-government. So the uplifting of the people of the Philippines to the comprehension and practice of orderly industry.

respect for individual rights, confidence and then participation in government will add enormously to their happiness and reciprocally to the strength, prosperity and power of our country —*Congressional Record, Senate, March 7, 1900.*

QUESTIONS.

1. Give an account of the steps that led up to the war with Spain. 2. What means did President McKinley take to try to avoid war? 3. What event evidently had much to do with causing the war? 4. What power did the President ask? 5. What spirit animated Congress when it declared war? 6. How can you prove your answer? 7. What position was taken in the Second Annual Message in regard to the gaining of Manila? 8. What territory does the President claim was gained by the capture of Manila? 9. What territory was to go to the United States by the terms of the protocol? 10. What is a protocol? 11. What claim was made by the Filipinos? 12. On what grounds did they make their claim? 13. What claim was made in regard to the effect of the Treaty of Peace in regard to the acquisition of territory in the Philippines?

1. Give the terms of the Treaty of Peace. 2. Compare the resolutions introduced respecting the disposition that should be made of the Philippines. 3. What constitutional question was raised in this discussion? 4. Was the same question raised in 1803? 5. Give the constitutional arguments of the friends of annexation; 6. the same for those opposed. 7. Give the arguments based on expediency of the friends of annexation; 8. the same for those opposed. 9. Compare these arguments. 10. What is the fundamental question in dispute?

1. Trace the constitutional questions which have divided men from 1803 to 1900. 2. Show what changes have taken place. 3. What are the essential differences in the earlier and the last annexations? 4. Make a map to show the territorial possessions at each era of our growth. 5. Discuss the question of the results of expansion — what the dangers — what the advantages? 6. Write the history of our territorial development. 7. Make a list of the Presidents under whom expansion took place. 8. Make a list of statesmen who have opposed acquisition of territory; of those who have favored.



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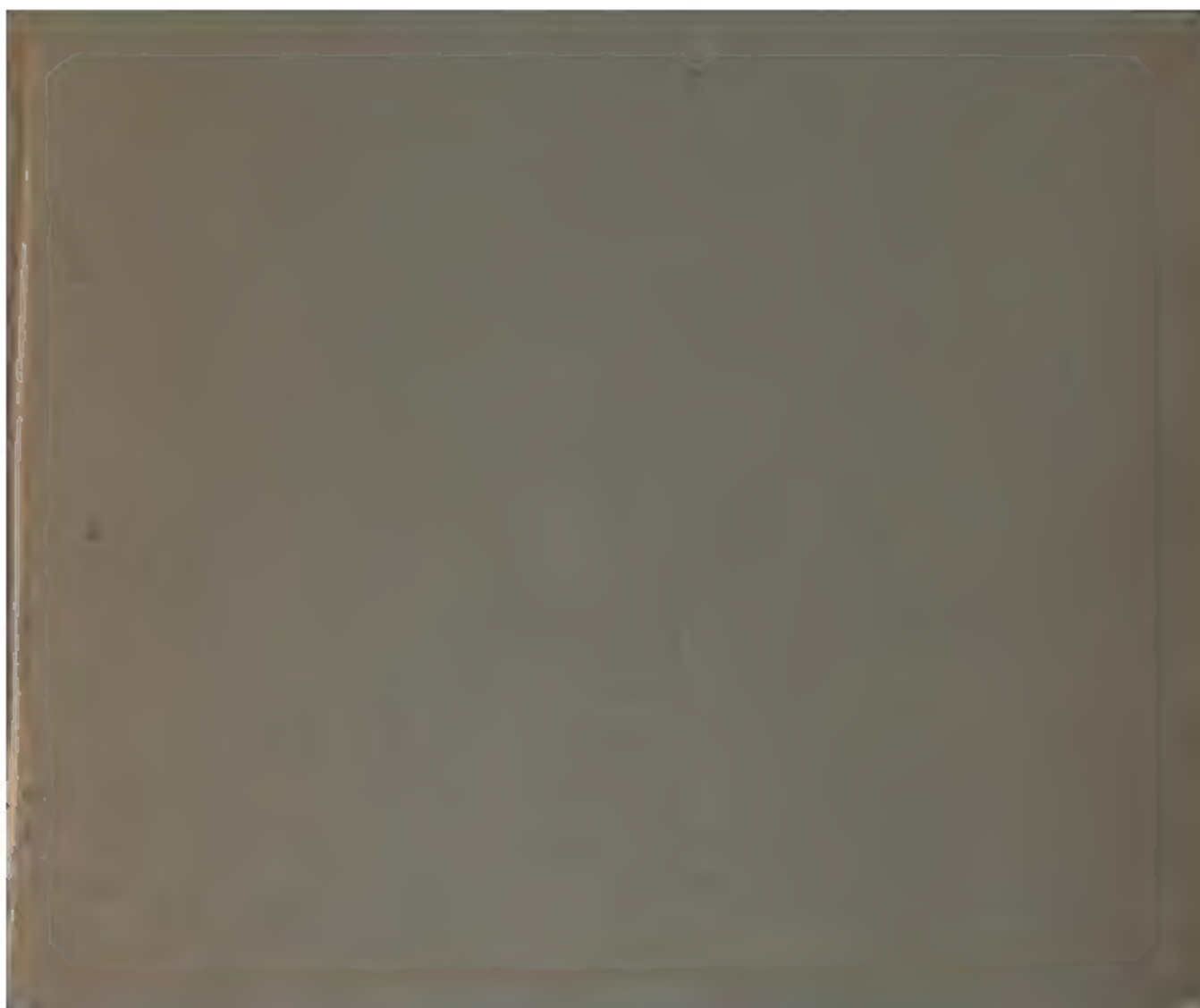
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